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PRICE FIVEPENCE



A SCENE AT VERSAILLES.

THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.

There can be few, if any, fairly educated persons of this generation who have not looked forward with keen and almost impatient interest to the completion of the Mont Cenis Tunnel between Savoy and Piedmont. It is one of those stupendous feats of engineering which will be a memorial of the present age to the end of time. Like the Suez Canal and the tubular railway bridge across the river St. Lawrence, near Montreal, it exhibits, on a scale of magnitude far beyond most of the works of man, marvellous audacity in the conception of it; still greater courage in being resolved on as a practical undertaking; and the highest scientific skill, as well as the most indomitable perseverance, in its completion. It very happily presents itself to the student of the history of modern Italy as a most appropriate vignette to that chapter of it which is occupied with the formation of the kingdom, "one and indivisible," and with the reign of Victor Emmanuel as its first Sovereign.

We shall not trouble the reader with descriptive details of this great work, which has already been made familiar to our readers by the series of Illustrations published about eighteen months ago in this Journal. Although there has always been a mountain road over Mont Cenis, connecting France and Italy, and although, under the orders of the First Napoleon, the road over the pass of the Cottian Alps was admirably constructed, generally safe, and much frequented, the development of the railway system, both in France and in Italy, rendered it an imperative necessity that some plan should be devised and constructed with as little delay as possible for linking together the two great countries by some more convenient line of communication than that over a mountain pass about 2224 ft. above the subjacent valley of the Arc, and 6773 ft. above the level of the sea. The project of a sub-alpine tunnel offered itself as, on the whole, most feasible; but it was talked about for some time much as we should now talk about a tunnel under the Dover Strait between England and France before it resolved into the shape of a practical enterprise. But in 1857, after the usual, and some unusual, preliminary difficulties had been overcome, the work was commenced. The ordinary boring machinery was used in the excavation of the tunnel for between two and three years, after which steam-power was employed; but for a long time past compressed air has been used with much success as a motive power. The length of the tunnel is 12,219 mètres. During the latter part of the period of its construction a temporary railway over the pass, on the principle, invented by Mr. Fell, of a central rail in addition to the ordinary rails, was laid down, and was successfully used for a considerable time; but it must be quite evident that for permanent use, and the uninterrupted accommodation of expanding commerce, no means of communication which were not entirely independent of Alpine snow-storms could supersede, or even compete with, the Mont Cenis Tunnel.

The completion of this gigantic undertaking—so far, at least, as relates to anything that was experimental in its character—is a fact all the more gratifying because it stands in such vivid contrast to the military engineering of the year 1870. It is some solace to such as love the arts of peace to know that the mechanical forces of nature and the inventive faculties of man have not been exclusively applied to the work of destruction, nor even to the fabrication of the implements by which nations attempt to ruin one another. It is peculiarly satisfactory, moreover, to be constrained to associate the first feat of world-wide importance and fame achieved by the new kingdom of Italy with a gain and not a loss to humanity. The gain, of course, is assured, and will be perennial. One can hardly foresee the time or the event that will prevent the Mont Cenis tunnel from being richly tributary to the prosperity of Italy. It is the gateway, if so we may express ourselves, between the maritime States of North-Western Europe and the Suez Canal. As far as their commerce, and especially their personal travel, is concerned, it is the gorge of communication through which intercourse will be carried on between them and the East. It will set up and constantly feed a channel of activity, industry, and wealth—perhaps more than one—along the entire length of the Southern Peninsula. It will probably excite new life in the inhabitants of all the districts through which any lines of railway with which it may be put into connection now pass. In its vivifying and fertilising energy it will resemble a current of galvanism down the spine of a lassitudinarian (we apologise for the newly-coined word), or a rill of water through tracts of arid territory. A stream of human life from France, England, and America cannot be constantly pouring itself, by way of the Mont Cenis Tunnel, into Italy, and flowing backwards and forwards from its north-westernmost to its south-easternmost limits, without wonderfully stirring and invigorating any stagnant habits or heavy social atmosphere through which it passes.

We can conceive of the most striking moral changes as ultimately resulting to Italy from this piercing of the Alps, and can imagine the Italian people hereafter drawing through this narrow tube not merely the materials of prosperity, but also the regenerative elements of intellectual and moral well-being. We congratulate the young kingdom upon having started on its national career in the right direction. It has moulded its spirit of enterprise on the best type of civilisation. *Ce n'est que le premier pas qui coûte.* Italy, sorely tempted to aspire to military

fame, has had the wisdom, and has exercised the requisite self-denial, to set out on the path of peaceful improvement. She has swallowed her pride, but she will have more than a commensurate reward. After a while she will adapt her feelings and habits to her position, and will once again take the lead in the commercial enterprise of the old world. Already we hear that the King has appointed a commission of scientific engineers of the greatest eminence to inquire into the best means of draining, levelling, and restoring to agricultural uses the Campagna di Roma, whereby about 2600 square miles of territory will be practically added to the kingdom, and the sanitary condition of the capital will be greatly improved. It is in works of this character that Italy will be most certain of finding her true national dignity; and we rejoice that she gives promise of rising, by other means than arms, to a fame worthy of her past. All honour to her, and abundant success!

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

SPAIN.

Decrees have been issued granting to the widow of General Prim the title of Duchess Prim (to descend to her daughter); and to her son, Don Juan Prim y Aguero, that of Duke (instead of Marquis) of the Castillejos, with nobility of the first order in both cases.

Senor Sagasta is Minister of Finance as well as of the Interior.

A Republican insurrection has broken out in the province of Grenada, but it is considered unimportant.

GERMANY.

The resignation is announced of Herr Mühler, the Prussian Minister of Education. Herr Joachim, the violinist, is superintendent of the Berlin Academy of Music, which is one of the institutions under the Ministry of Education. A teacher in the academy offended the Minister in some way, and M. Mühler ordered his dismissal. Joachim thereupon resigned; but the King, reviewing the affair, ordered him to resume his functions, and made him independent of the Education Department. It was then Herr Mühler's turn to resign, and he has not been reinstated.

The elections for the German Reichstag will take place on Feb. 22, as the House is to meet early. Further credits will be necessary before April, the present war expenses being 1,000,000 thalers daily.

The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies has adopted the bill relative to the extraordinary military credit by 146 votes against 4. In the Upper Chamber the bill passed without debate. A resolution added to the bill by the Lower House was also adopted, expressing a wish that the services rendered by the Aid Society, which come within the province of the War Office, should be undertaken by the latter. In Wednesday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies the debate on the Federal Treaty came on for discussion. Herren Joerg and Roland opposed the treaty; and Herr Barth, the Finance Minister, supported it. Thirty-four of the speakers were undecided in their opinions.

GREECE.

The President of the new Ministry has made a speech, in which he described the programme of the Ministry. "We wish," said he, "to maintain friendly relations with foreign Powers, and to develop and improve the internal resources of the country. We shall respect the rights of foreigners, especially those of our neighbours. Our policy is peaceful."

Mr. Noel, the Englishman charged with complicity in the Marathon murders, who had escaped, has surrendered.

TURKEY.

We learn by a telegram from Constantinople that Prince Charles has informed the Porte that he had no intention of withdrawing from the stipulations imposed on Roumania by the Treaty of 1856.

Arvanitaki, Spano, Calzoy, and other chiefs, with over eighty Hellenic brigands, coming from Greece, were on Dec. 31 attacked at Ermeé by Turkish troops. Their losses are estimated at twenty men. The Turkish detachment was very inferior in number, and suffered heavily. The pursuit is being conducted vigorously.

AMERICA.

The United States Senate has unanimously adopted Mr. Sumner's resolution calling for copies of the correspondence of the Administration with Mr. Motley relating to his recall. The course taken by the American Government with regard to the Alabama claims is being severely criticised by the New York press. It is contended that Mr. Reverdy Johnson fulfilled his mission with great tact, and would have secured better terms than can be obtained now. The reasons for Mr. Motley's recall are also being censured. A diplomatic correspondence has been published which shows that Mr. Motley, on Dec. 7, wrote to Mr. Secretary Fish, expressing astonishment at his recall without any previous intimation, or any direct charges of dereliction of duty being preferred. Mr. Motley's letter concludes thus: "I record my solemn protest against the outrage, as I believe it to be entirely without precedent, of my peremptory removal."

The House of Representatives, by 123 against 63 votes, has passed a joint resolution providing for the appointment of a commission to visit San Domingo. Previously, however, to this resolution a motion was adopted, by 108 against 76 votes, that this action should not be construed as committing Congress to a policy of annexation.

The quinquennial census of the United States shows a population of 39,000,000. It has increased 22 per cent in the decade, and at the same rate will, in 1900, reach 75,000,000. Of these about one tenth will be negroes. The largest State, New York, now numbers 4,370,000, or a million more than the six New England States, which collectively number only 3,482,000, or a fourth of the population of the "West," now above twelve millions.

INDIA.

The Viceroy of India has appointed Mr. Davies, the Chief Commissioner of Oude, to the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Punjab, in succession to Sir H. Durand. General Barrow is to succeed Mr. Davies in Oude. Sir Henry Durand's funeral took place, on Thursday week, at Dera Ismail Khan.

The American papers record the sudden death of the Rev. Albert Barnes, D.D., the well-known commentator, at the age of seventy-two years.

Mr. John Fowler, C.E., has left London for Egypt, to be the guest of the Khedive, who has invited him to Egypt for consultation concerning engineering projects.

THE WAR.

The military movements of the last week, up to the new of Thursday, have been such as to show a great advance of the German forces, westward of Orleans and north of Tours, against the French position at Le Mans; whence it now seems quite impossible for General Chanzy, though still commanding 150,000 men in that position, to turn the German right flank and come to the relief of Paris. At the same time, we learn with surprise that the army of General Bourbaki, which was on the Loire above Orleans, at Gien and Bonny, opposed to the left wing of Prince Frederick Charles, has slipped far away into the east of France, proceeding from Bourges and Nevers 150 miles eastward, to the departments of the Doubs and Upper Saône, where two or three battles have been fought, between Besançon and Vesoul, with a view to separate General von Werder from the besiegers of Belfort. It is probable, however, that only a small portion of Bourbaki's army was detached for this purpose, and that its main body remains south-east of Orleans, in the hope of getting to the back of Prince Frederick Charles, as he marches westward, and of approaching Paris behind him. The space included in these combined operations—if there really is any effective combination—between General Chanzy and the easternmost detachments of General Bourbaki, would be at least two thirds of the full breadth of France; and their aggregate forces cannot exceed 300,000 men, including the Garibaldian volunteers and Franks-Tireurs in the Côte d'Or. The only other considerable French army now existing is that of General Faidherbe, which is confined to the small corner of France northward of the river Somme, beyond Amiens and Peronne; which latter place, as well as Rocroy, on the Meuse, has now surrendered to the Germans.

The reader may get a fair general notion of the present extent of the hostile occupation by taking any map of France, and drawing two horizontal lines—the upper one from Tréport or Eu, in latitude 50 deg., on the seacoast near the mouth of the Somme; the lower one from a point some few miles west of Blois, in latitude 47 deg. 50 min., to the eastern frontier, which upon these lines touch Belgium and Switzerland. The parallelogram inclosed by these lines, with a connecting oblique line from the mouth of the Seine, near Havre, to the point between Blois and Tours, is practically conquered, except Havre and Paris; and, though this space is little more than a fifth part of the whole French territory, it is amply sufficient to allow the entire invading army to maintain itself at the cost of the country till Paris shall be forced to a capitulation. There are no elements of resistance left within the space we have described; and, unless some portion of this space can be recovered by the efforts of the French armies in the west, south, or north, outside of its limits, the fall of Paris is absolutely certain. The war, indeed, might then be renewed in the south of France, with Bordeaux or Lyons for its centre; but this would depend more on political than military considerations.

Such is our view of the general situation at the present moment. It is scarcely worth while to relate the particulars of isolated conflicts here or there, which have made no real alteration in this state of things. Since our last weekly record of events Prince Frederick Charles has driven Chanzy from Vendôme and St. Amand southward to Authon and Château Renault, and westward to Château-du-Loir, La Chartre, Savigny, and Sarge; while the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg has advanced from Chartres upon Nogent-le-Rotrou, and hence past St. Calais, Bouloire, and Ardenay, till the two combined German armies are within six miles of Chanzy's position at Le Mans. There was a series of battles, severely contested, on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday; but the Germans forced their way on. On the extreme German right, besides the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg is at the same time pushing forward, by Mortagne and Bellême, towards Alençon. It may be remarked that Château-du-Loir on the south and Alençon on the north form a straight line with Le Mans, which lies at equal distance from those two places. It is evident that, by pressing onward on both sides, the Germans threaten to out-flank and compass Chanzy all round; so that, unless he chooses to run the risk of being surrounded, he must give battle in front of his position at Le Mans, which is said to be a very strong one. In the engagement of last Tuesday the French were driven within a mile of Le Mans, losing one gun, three mitrailleuses, and more than 2000 prisoners. The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg telegraphs to Schwerin the news of another battle fought by him, last Wednesday, at Lombray and La Chapelle, north of Le Mans. He describes it as "a hotly-contested but victorious engagement;" and he adds, "Nearly 10,000 prisoners have been captured. Our loss is considerable. We shall advance to-morrow on Le Mans."

The late actions in Eastern France are still imperfectly known; and the French and German official accounts directly belie each other. It is stated by a Versailles telegram that, on Monday last, General Von Werder from Vesoul advanced on Villersexel, and, storming that place, which was occupied by the French, captured sixteen officers, 800 rank and file, and two eagles. The French made an attempt to retake the position, but failed, and were compelled to retreat. A Bordeaux telegram gives a very different account, stating that Villersexel was carried by the French with cries of "Vive la France" and "Vive la République." Villersexel is at the junction of the roads from Vesoul, Montbéliard, Lure, and Besançon, south-west of Belfort. It is impossible at present to reconcile these conflicting statements. We hear from Berlin that a large army of the east is about to be formed. It is to consist of Von Werder's, Zastrow's, and other troops, and General Manteuffel is to be the commander-in-chief.

From Brussels we learn that the Prussians are besieging Givet, and that preparations are being made for a determined attack on Longwy, eighty cannon having arrived before that fortress. There have been some more marchings and fightings on the banks of the Seine, near Havre, but with no important result. The Pas de Calais is overrun with Germans; Arras has been summoned to surrender.

The chief news from Paris is that the French redoubt at Clamart has been occupied by the Germans and turned against the city. The forts are reported to be nearly silent, and the bombardment is steadily proceeding on the south, east, and north. On Monday or Tuesday the Prussians, for the fourth time, renewed their attack against Maison Crochard, to the left of Ruil, on the west side of Paris, and were repulsed with serious losses. The barracks of Fort Issy were burnt by the Prussian fire on Wednesday. We also learn that a reconnaissance had been made on the advanced posts of the Prussians near the Strasbourg railway, probably beyond Bondy, on the east side, where the French drove off the Prussians with the bayonet. Some took refuge in the houses, and, as they refused to surrender, the buildings were mined and blown up by the French, who only lost seven men wounded in the affair. Another reconnaissance towards Clamart, with a view to destroying the enemy's works at Moulin de Pierre, was equally successful. The French took several prisoners and only lost four men. The population are reported to be most resolute, notwithstanding that many shells had fallen into the town.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Lady Mayoress will resume the customary weekly "At Homes" on Tuesday next, the 17th inst.

Another new theatre is to be opened on the 21st inst., in Sloane-square, with a new comedy from Mr. W. S. Gilbert.

Holland House, with which is connected so many historical associations, narrowly escaped destruction by a fire which broke out on Tuesday.

Mr. Noble's bust of the late Earl of Derby has been placed in a corridor in the Guildhall, near the Aldermen's Chamber, and unveiled. It has cost the Corporation about £250.

Monday being Plough Monday, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, according to ancient custom, entertained the officers of the household and other guests to dinner in the Long Parlour.

The committee for the preservation of Wandsworth-common have, it is stated, at length succeeded in effecting an amicable arrangement with Lord Spencer, which will secure the common for public recreation and enjoyment.

At a crowded public meeting of the inhabitants of Chelsea, held on Monday evening, Sir Charles Dilke and Sir Henry Hoare reviewed the events of the political year in speeches of some length. A vote of confidence to both was passed.

The annual ball in aid of the funds of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum—one of the most exemplary charitable institutions in London—took place at the St. James's Hall, on Thursday night, when the attendance was large.

A good meal, consisting of a plateful of roast mutton and potatoes, followed by plum-pudding, was given, on Tuesday evening, to upwards of 500 of the poor children attending the Great Arthur-street Mission-Hall Ragged School, Golden-lane.

Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall, on Friday next, under the direction of Sir Michael Costa; the principal vocalists being Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Julia Elton, Mr. Nordblom, and Mr. Santley.

The Dowager Marchioness of Westminster has sent £500 to the corps of Commissionaires, being her third donation, and the second of that amount. The sum required for the purchase of the barracks is £5262, towards which £4079 has been received up to the present date.

The annual ball in aid of the funds of the Linen and Woollen Drapers' Institution took place, yesterday week, at Willis's Rooms. The president of the society and many members of the leading firms in London were present, and upwards of 400 persons sat down to an excellent supper.

At Charing-cross Hospital there are wards set apart for the treatment of poor suffering children—ten boys and ten girls under eight years of age. These wards were a scene of great merriment on Monday evening, when the children had their Christmas-tree entertainment. The poor little sufferers were supplied with buns and tea, and during the evening with oranges, sweets, &c. Dolls and toys of every description were distributed to them.

Last week's returns of metropolitan pauperism show that the decrease continues. The total number of paupers at the end of the first week in January was 150,376, of whom 36,456 were indoor and 113,920 outdoor paupers. This is a decrease of 4096, compared with the corresponding period of last year; an increase of 5070 over 1869; but a decrease of 4967 compared with 1868. The number of vagrants relieved was 1029; of whom 774 were men, 195 women, and 60 children.

The half-yearly meeting of the supporters of the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb was held, on Monday, at the London Tavern. The Rev. J. Watson read the report of the committee, which stated that, while the annual subscriptions were well maintained, there had been a slight falling off in the life subscriptions. During the past year sixty-one children had been admitted into the asylum, and forty-four had been apprenticed out to various trades, at the cost of the charity. There were now 300 deaf and dumb children in the asylum, and fifty-eight at the branch school at Margate. Thirty more were elected.

On Wednesday evening a curious and, to some extent, touching sight was to be seen at the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, in the Old Kent-road. Ninety-five children, or thereabouts, who had, for reasons which need not be explained, been unable to go away for the holidays, were entertained, at the expense of the committee, with cakes, oranges, bonbons, and, above all, with a clever conjuror, whose tricks created much surprise and delight, and whose remarks were interpreted by a legerdemain, more wonderful than the conjuror's sleight-of-hand, to the children, by the Rev. James H. Watson, the principal.

A crowded meeting, composed, it is stated, mainly of working men, was held, on Tuesday night, in St. James's Hall, under the presidency of Professor Beesly, for the purpose of "calling upon the Government to recognise the French Republic and to resist the policy of territorial spoliation" now pursued by Germany. The principal speakers were the chairman, Mr. Odger, Mr. George Howell, Mr. Frederic Harrison, Captain Maxse, and Mr. Bradlaugh. The resolutions adopted expressed sympathy with France in her struggle against foreign invasion, condemned Mr. Gladstone for refusing to recognise the French Republic and for compromising the honour and safety of this country by the vacillation and feebleness of his foreign policy, and urged upon the Government the necessity of ascertaining officially from Germany the terms upon which she will conclude peace; and, in the event of her insisting on the dismemberment of France, calling upon the neutral Powers to unite with England in resisting it.

Mrs. Moffat, wife of the Rev. Robert Moffat, the well-known African missionary, died on Monday night of bronchitis, at the age of seventy-six.

A tray of diamond rings worth £200 was stolen on Saturday from a jeweller's at Windsor. The tray was not missed for three hours, and the thieves got clear off.

The Very Rev. H. Alford, Dean of Canterbury, died on Thursday. He was taken ill on Monday with influenza. The cause of death was congestion of the lungs. Dr. Alford was in his sixty-first year.

Mr. Thomas Dugdale, of Blackburn, the deputy chairman, and the late chairman of the East Lancashire Railway Company, has been elected chairman of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, in place of the late Mr. George Wilson.

The Sanatorium at Weston-super-Mare has been freed from its debt of £1500. Towards this sum Mr. Gibbs, of Tyntesfield, gave £700; his son, Mr. A. Gibbs, £50; his daughter, Mrs. Gurney, £50; and the Rev. W. Hunt, £100.

The proprietors of the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society have decided to present the society's museum to the town, on the condition that a free public museum be established and a suitable building provided.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Baker, W. De Foe, Curate of South Collingham, Notts, to be Vicar of Saxilby.
Berry, T., Vicar of St. Werburgh, Derby.
Boyle, R. Alexander; Vicar of Crookham Hill.
Chapman, W. H., Rector of Lowestoft; Rural Dean of Loth'ngland.
Doherty, C. W.; Vicar of Worle, Somersetshire.
Hayes, Edward; Perpetual Curate of St. Martin's, Low Marple, Cheshire.
Hodgson, Joseph Sturdy; Canon of Carlisle.
Hope, Robert Dixon; Perpetual Curate of Old Hutton, n. ar Kendal.
Hooper, John W.; Rector of Gateshead Fell, Durham.
Hopkins, H. G.; Rector of Skelton, Penrith.
Middleton, Charles Henry; Vicar of Lingon, Herefordshire.
Pennethorne, Gregory Walton; Vicar of Ferring, Kingston, and East Preston.
Ramsay, William Byron; Vicar of Balking with Woolstone, Berks.
Remington, F. H.; Rector of Kirkley, Suffolk.
Rivett, A. W. L.; Vicar of St. Martin-at-Palace, Norwich.
Roberts, Henry; Vicar of Gwernafeld, near Mold, Flintshire.
Symes, T. L.; Curate of Queen Camel; Rector of St. Keyne, Cornwall.
Tucker, George William; Vicar of Lannarth, Cornwall.
Tyler, W. W.; Vicar of Walswick, Suffolk.
Williams, Henry L., Curate of Bebbington, Chester.
Williams, J., of Wrexham; Rector of Newtown, Montgomeryshire.
Williams, W. J.; Vicar of Saxilby; Vicar of Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts.
Wilson, C. H.; Curate of Terrington St. Clement's; Vicar of Upavon, Sarum.
Wing, Russell; Rector of Denton.
Wright, B., jun.; Curate of Farnham, Surrey.

A site has been purchased for a new church at Norwood Junction.

The Scriveners' Company have subscribed £50 to the fund being raised for the completion of the interior of St. Paul's. This makes sixteen of the City companies which have subscribed towards this great national work.

The long-pending question of the monument to Kirke White is at last settled, and a faculty has been obtained for its removal to the new chapel of St. John's College, Cambridge, from the custody of the wardens of All Saints' Church.

The new Church of All Saints', situated in Queen's-road near Hesketh Park, Southport, was opened on Thursday week. The architect is Mr. J. Sidebottom, of Southport. The Rector of North Meols (the Rev. C. Hesketh) and his family have defrayed the entire expense of the erection of the church, besides giving the site.

A new chancel has been added to the church of Higham-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire. The opening services were held on New-Year's Day, and, in spite of the severity of the weather, were numerously attended and hearty. The new chancel is erected by his family to the memory of the late Rector, and the east window is a memorial from his parishioners and friends.

A fashionable company met at the Royal Assembly Rooms, Leamington, on Tuesday, to present a testimonial to the Rev. Dr. Bickmore, on his resigning the incumbency of Christ Church, which he had held for fourteen years. Major-General Jones presented the testimonial, consisting of the rev. gentleman's portrait and a purse of £180. Mr. John Hardy, M.P. for South Warwickshire, seconded a resolution, moved by the chairman, acknowledging the faithful manner in which Dr. Bickmore had discharged his duties and expressing the grateful acknowledgments of his late congregation. A Bible was also presented by a school of which he had been visitor.

The new year has commenced auspiciously for our countrymen at Algiers with the consecration of the Church of the Holy Trinity, by the Bishop of Gibraltar, on the Feast of the Circumcision. Notwithstanding the cold and rain, the little flock of English this winter resident in Algiers gathered to the number of fifty for the ceremony. The church stands on an excellent site, the gift of the French Government. Its erection is due to the untiring energy of H.M. Consul, Colonel Playfair, and his brother-committee-men, who, having expended £2755 on the building, find themselves still personally liable for a debt of £1250. The style of architecture is Byzantine, with apsed chancel, western rose window, and gable belfry.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Dr. Wright, of the British Museum, the recently-elected Professor of Arabic, has been elected a Fellow of Queens' College, Cambridge. Dr. Wright has for some time been an honorary Fellow of Queens'.

The annual meeting of the Association for the Better Endowment of the University of Edinburgh was held on Tuesday, under the presidency of the Lord Justice-General, who mentioned that Dr. Neil Arnot, to whom the University was already indebted for having founded a scholarship in physical science, had announced his intention of giving £1000 to each of the four Scotch Universities in the course of the present year.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The prizes gained by the members of the Queen's (Westminster) during the past year were delivered to them, on Saturday last, in Westminster Hall, by the Marchioness of Westminster, wife of the commandant of the corps.

The official return of efficient of the Bristol Volunteer Rifle Corps for 1870 shows exactly an equal number with that of the previous year, but the number of those who have earned the extra grant of ten shillings shows an increase of sixty-two.

Last Saturday the Countess of Derby distributed prizes among the volunteers at Preston. In acknowledging the vote of thanks to his wife, Lord Derby said we were going to have a military Session of Parliament; he would not say a warlike Session, because the outcry for war, though loud, came, as he believed, from an exceedingly small section of the public. Military organisation would be the subject of the year, and he hoped the volunteers would be allowed to remain as they were in respect to the absence of compulsion to enter their ranks, and to the practically gratuitous character of the services they gave. On the more general subject of military defences, he trusted that, before the discussion in Parliament, the masters of Parliament—the public—would know their own minds. The country was undoubtedly going to incur an increased expenditure. The public expected and wished it, including that portion of the public that had to pay income tax, upon which, of course, the burden would chiefly fall. Upon the proposal of compulsory service in the militia, his Lordship threw out the suggestion of a division of the country into districts, and the requirement of a certain number of men, or money proportionate to the deficiency in men, from each district.

A Lancashire volunteer was charged before a local Bench recently with refusing to pay his subscription of £1 to the 31st Lancashire (Oldham) for the year 1870. He, having failed to make himself efficient, was required to pay a subscription of the amount named, and, as he declined to do this when applied to in the ordinary course, a summons was taken out against him. He was committed to prison for one month.

The Earl of Aylesford died, on Tuesday morning, at his town residence, in the forty-seventh year of his age. His Lordship is succeeded by his eldest son, Lord Guernsey, who is in his twenty-first year.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of Thomas Brocklehurst, Esq., late of The Fence, in Macclesfield, in the county of Chester, who died on Nov. 7 last, was proved at Chester, on Dec. 27 last, by Thomas Unett Brocklehurst and Charles Brocklehurst, Esqs., sons of the deceased, the executors named in the will. The personality was sworn under £600,000. The will is dated June 25, 1863; and there are four codicils. The testator, after making suitable provisions for his three daughters, all of whom are married, devises unto his eldest son, Thomas Unett Brocklehurst, Esq., the Gap House estate, in Kettleshulme, which has been in the Brocklehurst family since the year 1570; and about 1000 acres of land in Cheshire, including the Lee Hall and the Fence House estates, together with a legacy of £20,000. He devises to his son Charles Brocklehurst, Esq., his land and hereditaments at Bramhall, Cheadle, Stockport, Hazel-grove, Macclesfield, and Marple, together with a legacy of £15,000. To his son Francis Dicken Brocklehurst, Esq., he devises his lands and hereditaments in Warwickshire, a farm at Smallwood, and property and chief rents in Macclesfield. The testator directs all his real estate devised to his three sons to be valued, and the amount of the valuations added to his personal estate, all of which he then bequeaths to his five sons Thomas Unett, Charles, William Walter, Edward, and Francis Dicken in equal shares.

The will of General Charles Montauban Carmichael, C.B., Colonel of the 20th Regiment of Hussars, and many years a distinguished officer of her Majesty's Indian Army, who died on Nov. 21 last, at the Hôtel du Louvre, Boulogne-sur-Mer, in his eightieth year, was proved in the London Court under £12,000 personality.

The will of Colonel Frederick Clinton, late of the Grenadier Guards (son of General Sir William Henry Clinton, G.C.B., and Lady Louisa Dorothea, daughter of the first Earl of Sheffield), who died at his seat, Ashley Clinton, Lymington, Hants, on Nov. 9 last, aged sixty-six, was proved in London under £100,000 personality.

The will of Lady F. L. Thomas was proved under £4000.

The will of Philip Eyles Patton, Esq., of Dean-street, Park-lane, who died on Oct. 24 last, at Sion Mansion, Brighton, was proved in London, on the 21st ult., under £50,000 personality.

The will of William Henry Burke, Esq., of Thistle-grove, South Kensington, was proved in London, on the 3rd ult., under £18,000 personality, by Miss Harriett Matilda Burke (his daughter), George William Wood, and Basil William O'Bryen, the joint acting executors. To Mr. Wood he leaves £100, and to Mr. O'Bryen £50. The will is dated May 6, 1870, and a codicil June 16 following, and the testator died, July 17 last, at Queenstown, Cork, in Ireland. He bequeaths to his son William Henry Burke his six Spanish Bonds, nominal value, stated at £3060, and his Italian Coupons, £3010; these bequests are beyond any other provision made for him. The testator confirms the provision and settlement for his two daughters and daughter-in-law, the wife of his son William H. Burke. He leaves to his daughter Harriett the sum of £500, which she is to give to such charitable objects as she might think proper, and appoints her residuary legatee of both his real and personal estate.

WEEKLY RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The Registrar-General gives the following return of births and deaths in London and in nineteen other large towns of the United Kingdom during the week ending Jan. 7:—

In London the births of 2368 children (1173 boys and 1195 girls) were registered last week. The deaths registered in the same time were 1828. During the corresponding weeks of ten previous years the registered births averaged 2160, and the deaths 1586 per week. After making due allowance for increase of population, the average for the past week is estimated at 2376 births and 1745 deaths; the registered births, therefore, were 8 below, and the deaths 83 above, the estimated average. The deaths under five years of age were 651, at the ages five to twenty years they were 142, at twenty to forty years 242, at forty to sixty years 330, at sixty to eighty years 391, and 72 at eighty years and upwards. Of infants in their first year 343 died, and 463 persons aged sixty years and upwards. Zymotic diseases caused 401 deaths, including 79 from smallpox, 34 from measles, 112 from scarlet fever, 4 from diphtheria, 9 from croup, 36 from whooping-cough, 10 from typhus, 18 from enteric (or typhoid) fever, 9 from simple continued fever, 16 from erysipelas, and 19 from diarrhoea. The deaths from smallpox were less numerous by 31 than they were in the previous week, and fewer by 3 than in the week ending Dec. 24. The fatality of the disease, however, was last week as great as in any week of the epidemic of 1863. There is relatively little or no diminution in the mortality in the eastern districts, where 36 deaths from smallpox were registered in the week, 12 of them being from the district of Bethnal-green and 15 from Shoreditch. Fifty-four deaths resulted from violence: of these 51 were accidental, including 18 by fractures, 11 by burns or scalds, and 17 by suffocation. Three suicides were registered. Three fatal accidents caused by horses or vehicles in the streets were returned last week.

During last week 4979 births and 4691 deaths were registered in London and nineteen other large cities and towns of the United Kingdom; and the aggregate mortality of the week was in the ratio of 33 deaths annually to every 1000 of the present estimated population. The annual rates of mortality last week in the seventeen English cities and towns, stated in the order of their topographical arrangement, were as follow:—London, 30 per 1000; Portsmouth, 19; Norwich, 36; Bristol, 39; Wolverhampton, 37; Birmingham, 28; Leicester, 36; Nottingham, 34; Liverpool, 56; Manchester, 33; Salford, 31; Bradford, 43; Leeds, 33; Sheffield, 28; Hull, 22; Sunderland, 24; and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 35. Smallpox caused 50 deaths in Liverpool, 1 in Manchester, 1 in Sheffield, 1 in Hull, and 1 in Newcastle-on-Tyne. Of 42 deaths from fever in Liverpool, 19 were cases of relapsing fever.

In Vienna the annual rate of mortality during the week ending the 31st ult. was 27 per 1000. In the city of Bombay the deaths registered during the week ending Dec. 6 were 331 (exclusive of stillborn), and the mortality was at the annual rate of 21 per 1000.

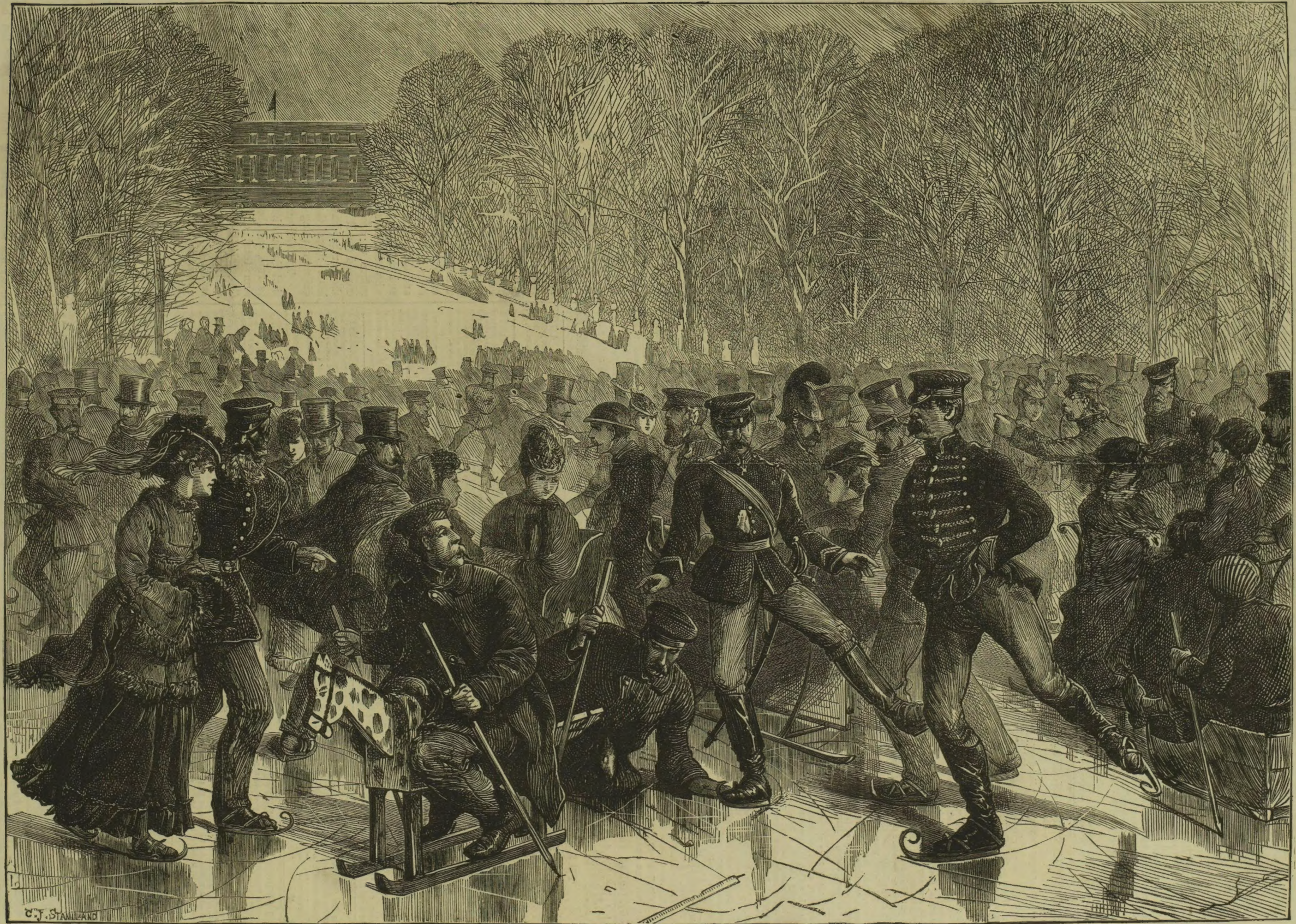
The Primate of Ireland acknowledges the receipt of a bank note of £100 from an English layman, "E. X.," for "the Sustentation Fund of the Church of England in Ireland."

Early on Wednesday morning an explosion of fire-damp occurred at the Renishaw Park Colliery, near Chesterfield, and twenty-seven of the night hands lost their lives.

It appears that the young housewives for whom that useful work "Cre-Fydd's Family Fare" (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.) was undertaken must have heartily appreciated the labours of the authoress, for the book has now reached a sixth edition. Much additional information has been supplied to the present issue, which will make it still more acceptable.



THE GERMANS' CHRISTMAS EVE IN FRANCE,



CHRISTMAS-DAY SPORTS AT VERSAILLES.

BIRTHS.

On the 7th inst., at 90, Westbourne-terrace, Hyde Park, the wife of Major A. H. Bogle, Royal Horse Artillery, of a son.

On the 17th ult., at 39, Sydenham-terrace, Canal-walk, Southsea, Hants, the wife of Thos. M'Farlane, engineer R.N., H.M.S. Warrior, of a daughter. Victoria (British Columbia) papers, please copy.

On the 9th inst., at Wyddial Hall, Buntingford, the wife of the late Edward Eaton Esq., of a son.

On the 8th inst., at Grosvenor Villa, Croxted-road, Dulwich, the wife of Melcom Laine, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, and 2, Flodden-buildings, Temple, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 5th inst., at Boston, by the Rev. the Provost of Eton, assisted by the Rev. Prebendary Blenkins, Vicar, the Rev. Edward Clowes, Chilton Cantelo, Somersetshire, third son of William Clowes, Esq., Gloucester-terrace, Hyde Park, to Emily Boyd, eldest daughter of Thomas Garrit, Esq., of Boston, and Little Grimsby Hall, Lincolnshire.

DEATHS.

On the 9th inst., at Weaste Cottage, Eccles, Manchester, William Tootal, Esq., late of Wakefield, aged 78 years.

On the 8th inst., at Brasted Park, Sevenoaks, of scarlet fever, Edward Alexander, third son of William Tipping, M.P., in his 19th year.

On New-Year's Day, at La Tourelle, Cannes, France, Alexander Munro, sculptor, aged 45.

On the 24th ult., at St. George's-square, S.W., Mrs. Lansdown, of Bedford-place, Russell-square, widow of J. Lansdown, Esq., formerly of Chester-terrace, Regent's Park.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 21.

SUNDAY, January 15.—Second Sunday after Epiphany. Divine Worship: St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. Ferdinand E. Lloyd Jones, M.A., Chaplain to the Lord Mayor; special evening service, 7 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; Chapels Royal, St. James's, morning, the Rev. Prebendary Wm. Rogers, M.A., Rector of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate; 11.30 a.m., the Rev. W. H. Brookfield, M.A., Chaplain to the Queen; 7.0 p.m., the Rev. Harry Jones, M.A., Vicar of St. Luke's, Berwick-street.

MONDAY, 16.—Battle off Cape St. Vincent (the Spanish fleet defeated by Rodney), 1780. Meetings: Royal Asiatic Society, 3 p.m.; Medical Society, 8 p.m.; Victoria Institute, 8 p.m.; Royal United Service Institution, 8.30 p.m. (Admiral Fishbourne on "The Instability of the Captain").

TUESDAY, 17.—St. Anthony, Patriarch of Monks. Martin Luther's farewell sermon at Wittenberg, 1556. Meetings: Anthropological Society, Anniversary, 4 p.m.; Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m.; Statistical Society, 7.45 p.m.; Zoological Society, 9 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor M. Foster on Nutrition).

WEDNESDAY, 18.—Frederick, Elector of Brandenburg, crowned himself first King of Prussia, 1701. Meetings: Royal Horticultural Society, fruit and floral, 11 a.m.; scientific, 1.30 p.m.; general, 3 p.m.; Meteorological Society, 7 p.m.; Royal Society of Literature, 8.30 p.m.; Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. Richard Jones, "How Meat is Preserved"); Hunterian Society, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, 19.—Cinco de Mayo, 1812. Meetings: Royal Society Club, 6 p.m.; Numismatic Society, 7 p.m.; London Institution Lecture, 7.30 (Mr. Ella on Dramatic Music); Artists and Amateurs, 8 p.m.; University College, 8 p.m. (Professor Marks on Jewish Literature); Royal Academy Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. Cope on Painting); Linnean and Chemical Societies, 8 p.m.; Society of Antiquaries and Royal Society, 8.30 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor Odling on Davy's Discoveries).

FRIDAY, 20.—St. Fabian, bishop and martyr. John Howard, the philanthropist, died, at Cherson, 1790. Meetings: Philological Society, 8.15 p.m.; Royal United Service Institution, 3 p.m. (Capt. Huyshe on the Red River Expedition); Royal Institution, 8 p.m. (Professor Tyndall on the Colour of Water, &c., 9 p.m.).

SATURDAY, 21.—Louis XVI. of France guillotined, 1793. New moon, 0.32 a.m. Meetings: Royal Horticultural Society (promenade), 2 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (the Rev. W. H. Channing on the Laws of Human Life as Revealed in History).

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 21.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
7 57	8 30	9 4	10 18	10 54	11 30	12 27

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE
NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DATE.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOM.		WIND.		
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, at 10 A.M. next morning.
	Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	°	°		Feet in 24 hours next 10 A.M.
January.	4	30.149	28.8	24.6	86	3	28.6	SSE. ESE.	172
	5	29.867	34.3	31.5	90	6	21.5	SSW. WSW. W.	303
	6	30.075	37.1	35.5	95	7	30.6	SW.	368
	7	29.659	37.4	35.5	93	6	33.4	W. W.	247
	8		32.9	SW. W.	166
	9	29.476	32.9	31.4	95	9	28.5	E. SE. N. NW.	177
10	29.576	32.3	29.6	91	9	25.5	WSW. SSW. ESE.	255	

* Melted snow.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:-

Barometer (in inches) corrected	30.149	29.938	30.171	29.743	29.551	29.350	29.742
Temperature of Air	31.1°	34.1°	35.0°	42.6°	35.3°	33.4°	31.6°
Temperature of Evaporation	29.6°	33.0°	33.6°	41.0°	33.6°	32.0°	30.3°
Direction of Wind	SSE.	SSW.	SW.	SW.	WSW.	SS.	SW.

NORTH LONDON or UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—The Committee are constrained to urge upon the public the great need of aid to the general funds of this Hospital.

The Hospital is suffering seriously from the decrease in contributions caused by the war. The receipts up to this period, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, are £1000 less. The Committee were obliged to use £3250 of capital during the past year to pay off tradesmen's bills.

The children's wards, which are always full, have this year scarcely received a single contribution towards their support.

Donations, &c., thankfully received by Edward Esfield, Esq., Treasurer, 19, Chester-terrace, Regent's Park; by the Secretary; and by Mr. J. W. Goodfellow, Clerk to the Hospital Committee.

HENRY J. KELLY, R.N., Secretary.

Gover-street.

LONDON INSTITUTION, Finsbury-circus.
INSTRUCTION IN PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.—The Chemical Laboratory, under the direction of Professor HENRY E. ARMSTRONG, Ph.D., F.R.S., is now open for the reception of Students requiring instruction in Analytical Chemistry and the Methods of Original Investigation. The Evening Class for Elementary Chemical Analysis will commence work on FEB. 13, and will meet three times a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday), from Six to Eight p.m., during the months of February, March, April, and May. Students wishing to join this Class are requested to call on the Professor on or before Saturday, Feb. 11. Every Student must be nominated by a Proprietor. Fees: For Sons of Proprietors, Two Guineas; for other Students, Three Guineas.

By order, THOMAS PIPER, Hon. Sec.

COLLEGES and SCHOOLS supplied with Stationery,
Books, Maps, Globes, and all School requisites, on the most advantageous terms, by EDWARD STANFORD, 6 and 7, Charing-cross, London, S.W., whose Priced List of Books, Maps, Atlases, &c., with samples of Copy and Ciphering Books, &c., can be had on application.

MESSRS. GURNEY, Army Agents and Accountants,
beg to remind Officers of both services that they continue to devote attention to the SETTLEMENT of the AFFAIRS of those who have become involved. Messrs. Gurney make advances of large or small amounts pending a settlement, or for such periods as may be desired, upon note of hand simply.—6, Grosvenor-street, W.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—A Firm of London
BUILDING SURVEYORS, having a large practice, have a VACANCY for an ARTICLED PUPIL. Must Write and Draw well, and be a good Mathematician. Address, R. and W. 35, Craven-street, Charing-cross, London, W.C.

THE Late Dr. HUNT'S Establishment for the CURE of
STAMMERING, Knowles Bank, Tunbridge. Conducted by his brother-in-law, the Rev. H. F. RIVERS, M.A., F.R.S.E. The Education of Boys is carefully attended to. The next Term will commence on Jan. 25, 1871. Mr. Rivers attends at 4, St. Martin's-place, London, W.C., on the First and Third Thursdays of every Month, from 11 to 3 p.m. Now ready, "Hunt on Stammering," 7th Edition, price 5s. Messrs. LONGMAN and Co.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS can now be supplied by post, direct from the Office, 198, Strand, W.C., at the reduced rate of £1 5s. 8d. per annum, or 6s. 5d. per quarter, to be paid in advance. This subscription will cover the ordinary Double Numbers and the special Christmas Supplements.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the Publisher.

The Subscription for Copies which are to be sent Abroad varies according to the amount required for their transmission.

The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS can be obtained at any of the Railway Bookstalls in England and Wales for 5d. each single Number. Notice of any difficulty in buying the paper at this price should be sent to the Publisher, 198, Strand, W.C.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The increasing demand for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS renders it necessary to go to press with it earlier in the week, it is therefore requested that Advertisements be for the future sent in on Wednesdays at the latest.

Office, 198, Strand, W.C.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.
The WINTER EXHIBITION of Sketches and Studies is now OPEN DAILY, from Nine till Six, at the Gallery, 63, Pall-mall. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAIRY, Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.
The NINTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION of SKETCHES and STUDIES is now OPEN, at 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission 1s. Gas on dark days. ALFRED D. FAIRY, Secretary.

THE COAST OF NORWAY. An Exhibition of Drawings and Paintings, by ELIJAH WALTON, including "The Midnight Sun."—PALL-MALL GALLERY, 48, Pall-mall (Mr. W. M. Thompson's). Admission, with Catalogue, 1s. Ten till Dusk.

DORÉ GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORÉ, 35, New Bond-
street.—EXHIBITION of PICTURES, including CHRISTIAN MARTYRS, MONASTERY, FRANCE—CA DE RIMINI, TITANIA, &c., at the New Gallery. Open Ten till Six. Gas at Dusk. Admission, 1s.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.
Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—FRIDAY NEXT, JANUARY 20, Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. Subscription Concert. Principal Vocalists—Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Julia Elton, Mr. Nordblom, and Mr. Santley. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d., at 6, Exeter Hall.

SHERINGTON, Edith Wynne, Julia Elton, Mrs. Weldon,
and Madame Patoy, at the THIRD BALLAD CONCERT, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on WEDNESDAY NEXT.

SIMS REEVES, Santley, Brinley Richards, J. L. Hatton,
and other popular Artists, at the THIRD BALLAD CONCERT, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on WEDNESDAY NEXT. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., 6s. Tickets of Austin, St. James's Hall; Boosey and Co., Holles-street; and the usual Music-sellers.

MONTHLY POPULAR CONCERTS, Brixton.—Director,
Mr. Ridley Prentice. Second Season. Fourth Concert, NEXT TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 17. Mr. Henry Holmes, Signor Piatini, and Mr. Ridley Prentice. Vocalist, Madame Dowland. Tickets, 3s. 6d., 2s., 1s., of Mr. Ridley Prentice, 9, Angell Park-gardens, Brixton; and at the Music-shops.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—GONZA and ROMAN, the
Marvellous Mexican Athletes; Professor Herrmann, the Great Prestidigitator; the Brothers Daniels; and the Marvels of Peru. Daily at 12.30.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Great Pantomime, GULLIVER,
Monday to Friday next. Gorgeous Transformation and other Scenes. Milano's Ballet, 150 Children. 300 Performers. Shilling Days. Reserved Seats, Half a Crown and one Shilling. A great reduction on taking Ten.

Saturday.—First Saturday Concert of Second Series. Mdlle. Corani, Mr. Santley. Solo Violin, Madame Norman-Neruda. Day upwards of seven thousand persons paid for admission. Tickets, Half a Crown, or by Guinea Season Tickets. Present issue dating Twelve Months from Jan. 1.

Beautiful Decorations, Giant Christmas-Tree, Fancy Fair. Palace agreeably warmed. Illuminated Pictures of Constantinople and Suez Canal on view from Two till Six. Fine Arts Courts, Picture Gallery, &c.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED will appear in AGES
AGO, with a new Musical Tour, entitled BADEN BADEN and THE RIVAL COMPOSERS.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Every Evening, except Saturday, at Eight; Thursday and Saturday at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s. A Sensation Novel, by W. S. Gilbert, will shortly be ready.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The CHRISTY
MINSTRELS' FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES, given every Afternoon and Evening during the Christmas week in the Great Hall, achieved a success truly marvellous. Notwithstanding the vast accommodation afforded for the Holiday Visitors, it proved altogether inadequate to the demand for places. At each performance, long before the hour of commencement, some thousands of persons were unable to obtain admission to any part of the Hall. On Boxing Day upwards of seven thousand persons paid for admission to the two performances—undoubtedly the greatest return given by any place of amusement in London.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The extraordinary success
of the CHRISTY MINSTRELS' HOLIDAY PROGRAMME fully justifies the Management in announcing its repetition EVERY NIGHT, and also every Wednesday and Saturday Afternoon, until further notice. Fautouls, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Doors open at 7.30 for the Evening Performance, and at 2.30 for the Day Performance. Tickets and places may be secured fourteen days in advance, on application at Austin's Ticket Office, St. James's Hall, daily, from Nine till Six, and at Mr. Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. Moore and Frederick Burgess.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—THE CHRISTY
MINSTRELS' Great Holiday Programme Every Night, at Eight, Wednesdays and Thursdays, at Three and Eight, until further notice. All the new Songs, Dances, and Burlesques, introduced during the Christmas week with such unqualified success.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moore and Burgess.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—Lessee and
Manager, F. B. Chattemore.—Morning Performances of the Grand Pantomime every Wednesday and Saturday until Feb. 25.—On MONDAY, JAN. 16, her Majesty's Servants will perform a New and Original Farce, entitled RULE BRITANNIA. After which will be produced the Drury Lane Grand Comic Christmas Annual, entitled THE DRAGON OF WANDLEY, or Harlequin and Old Mother Shipton. Written by E. L. Blanchard, with Characteristic Scenery by William Beverley. Characters in the Opening by Misses Victoria Vokes, Jessie Vokes, Rosina Vokes, and Harriet Convey; Messrs. Fred Vokes, F. Moreland, Fawdon Vokes, H. Naylor, and Charles Steyne. In the Harlequinade, Messrs. F. Evans and W. H. Harvey, Clowns; Paul Herring and J. Morris, Pantaloons; Misses Rosina Vokes and Jessie Vokes, Columbines; Miss Lizzie Grosvenor, Harlequina; the Pocket Sims Reeves, Mr. Colliard; with various other attractions. The Music arranged by Mr. W. C. Levey; the Ballets, Grouping, and Children's Scenes arranged by Mr. John Cornack; the whole produced under the direction of Mr. Edward Stirling. Prices from Sixpence to Five Guineas. Doors open from Half-past Six. Commence at Seven o'clock. Box Office open from Ten till Five daily.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—On MONDAY
NEXT, and during the Week, at Seven, THE POOR SOLDIER; after which, at a Quarter to Eight, THE PALACE OF TRUTH—Messrs. Buckstone, Kondal, Everitt, Clark, Rogers, and Braid; Messadmes Robertson, Chippendale, C. Hill, F. Wright, and Fanny Gwynne; followed by UNCLE'S WILL—Mr. Kendal and Miss Robertson; and THE SPECTRE BRIDEGROOM. Box Office open daily from Ten till Five.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress,
Mrs. John Wood. SATURDAY, JAN. 14, Last Night of FERNANDE, of Mrs. Hermann Vezin, of Mr. William Farron, and of Mrs. John Wood. On MONDAY, Jan. 16, and every evening, New Original Comedy, in three acts, by T. W. Robertson, called WAR, New Scenery by King and Braham; new Music by Misses Brough, Mori, Barriol, Sation, and Lillian Adair. M. Henri Neitann (of the Théâtre Gymnase, Paris, and his First Appearance in English), Messrs. A. W. Young, Fred Mervin, and Lionel Brough. Doors open at 6.30. At Seven, TO OBLIGE BENSON—Misses Turner and Everard; Messrs. Grainger, Crosse, and Harry Cox. At Eight, WAR. At 10.50, BOMBASTES FURIOSO. Places must be booked at once. Box Office, Eleven to Six.

ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE and CIRCUS, HOLBORN.
More changes. Fresh array of talent. Miss Gertrude Sanger, with her magnificent School Horses, nightly greeted with immense applause. Those unrivalled Gymnastic Violinists, the Brothers Lavater Lee, every evening. Triumphant reception of the splendid New Company. Mdlle. Clotilde, the greatest living Equestrienne. Mr. A. Bradbury, in his unparalleled act of riding nine bare-backed horses at one time, nightly received with tremendous acclamation. Screams of laughter evoked by Punch and Judy; the comic mules, introduced by Price and Braham, the two inimitable humorists. Papeia, the Performing Elephant, cleverer than ever. Vaulting over ten horses by the entire Company, headed by the Champion Double Somersault-Throwers, Messrs. Purvis and Delevanti. The entire press unanimously of opinion that the entertainment at the Amphitheatre, Holborn, is the best ever given in this country. Open at Seven; commence at Half-past. Morning Performances every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday throughout the Holidays. Open at Two; commence at Half-past.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE.—Immense Success
of the New Pantomime, RIDE A COCK-HORSE TO BANBURY CROSS; or Harlequin and the Silver Amazons. Morning Performances Every Monday and Thursday at 12.30. Pantomime Every Evening, at Seven.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1871.

The bombardment of Paris has begun. M. de Bismarck's first "bouquet of shells" has been thrown. Such is the palpable fact, although, curiously enough, both besieged and besiegers affect to treat it lightly, the Germans asserting that the bombs were unintentionally sent into the city, and the Parisians asserting that the dreaded missiles do little harm and do not terrify the population at all. But against these phrases we have to set a few grim lines from the telegrams. "Several women and children have been killed." A more definite statement informs us that a shell fell upon a certain house, and, penetrating the room where a father and mother were sleeping with their two children, destroyed the mother and terribly wounded the father, the children escaping unhurt. A simply given story like that brings the reality of the situation before us. Shells rain on Paris.

Still we are glad to cling to the belief that as yet there exists a desire on the part of the German Emperor to spare the city the worst terrors of such a fire as he is clearly able to inflict, upon certain quarters of it at least. From Germany and from his own army has come the cry, fierce and loud, that the obstinacy of the Parisians deserves no mercy; and that, as they hold out in defiance of the rules of war, they ought to experience its severest punishment. The Emperor cannot disregard these clamours, reinforced as they are by the argument that every day the siege is protracted German soldiers perish from hardship. It seems clear to us—and we think that it must be clear to all who look fairly at the circumstances—that the German leaders have abstained from the use of the resources which for a long time they were supposed not to possess, but which it is manifest that they have, and are in a position to employ with far more effect than hitherto. We do not believe that the Emperor and those around him would willingly shower shells upon the helpless population of Paris, but we believe that they intend to take the city, and that, unless it speedily capitulates, many a miserable story like that told above will come over to make us shudder. But what is to be said? This is war; and let those who take such a time as this for an agitation designed to force our own rulers into active interference study the hideous lesson thus set before their very eyes. War means not only the conflict of brave men, excited to madness by the sounds and sights of battle, and recking nothing of death so that they die in hot blood, but it means iron shells breaking into the bed-rooms of women and children, and in a moment turning a quiet home into something almost too horrible for imagination. This is war, we repeat; and let those who would have neither part nor lot in it, were England to join in the fray, but who are not ashamed to raise passionate war outcries, prompted by political fanaticism or a feeble sentimentality, read and read again the first proofs of what is meant by the work of which they talk so glibly. Even the stern soldiers of Germany, victors in a score of battle-fields, and hard pressed on all hands to bring the strife to an end, are reluctant to put forth their whole force, and they hold their hands while speakers at an English meeting denounce them as monsters of cruelty. We do not say that we expect this forbearance to last very much longer; but even at the present moment, when the heroism of Paris and the miseries she is suffering command the admiration and the sympathy of the world, we ask for justice to those who have thus far shown no desire to do more than will suffice to accomplish the purpose for which they have crossed the Rhine. Up to the time at which we write the bombardment is, according to the Parisians themselves, little more than a demonstration. It may be a far different thing before we write again.

The Germans at home may be too hasty in assuming that Paris is holding out, as we have said above, contrary to rule, and therefore deserves no mercy. But when the sum total of the military operations by the French Generals (the operations whose success or failure decides whether Trochu is justified in his course or is not) is fairly estimated, it is scarcely permissible to say that Paris has a right to look for relief from the provinces. As before, gallant things are done, skilful movements are made; but the end of all is that the provincial armies are thrust further and further from Paris, and the iron ring is less likely than ever to be broken. The latest news is of German successes which were driving General Chanzy upon Le Mans. The accounts regarding Bourbaki are contradictory; but those most favourable to France give him no real advantage, while the Germans allege that he is defeated, and Faidherbe appears to be forced into inactivity. Men are weary of hearing of the tremendous sortie with which Trochu was to sweep through the German lines and effect a junction with somebody else; but the sortie is not made, and for the best and most obvious of reasons. As we have often said, nothing is impossible in war. But we have no right to speculate on the occurrence of mere possibilities. There is not even a probability of the French striking the double blow which alone can save the capital—the blow to be delivered simultaneously by a General without and a General within, and the result of which should be a rout of at least a couple of German armies. When the people in Fatherland calculate in this way, they may be pardoned for becoming, as

we think that they are, over-impatient for the end of the siege.

Those who believe that Paris will continue to hold out for many weeks, and that in the mean time the newly-raised armies will be brought into such discipline that they can be pitted against the veterans of Germany, continue to discover, day by day, proofs in favour of their views, but we are not concerned to contest them. We do not share them, and we eagerly desire to see Paris relieved from her present misery. We know but of one way in which this can be effected, and we have now no hesitation in saying that the capitulation will take a load from the hearts of myriads among the nations not engaged in the struggle. It is said, on some authority, that there is no desire on the part of the Germans to humiliate their enemy; and that, when the surrender takes place, the Emperor will not enter Paris, certainly will not do so in any sort of triumph. It is alleged that he will return to Berlin, and that if peace be made it will not be signed in the Tuileries. All this is possible, but we give it merely as a statement now in circulation. It is met by a defiant retort. Paris has not capitulated, and General Trochu has issued a proclamation declaring that he will not capitulate. This, too, is possible; but a very short time will show us whether, even at a crisis like this, there is not some "playing with words." The bombardment has begun.

THE COURT.

The Queen, with the junior members of the Royal family, continues at Osborne House.

On Sunday her Majesty, Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero officiated.

The Queen, accompanied by the Royal family, has taken her customary daily walking and driving exercise in the vicinity of the Royal demesne.

The Duke of Cambridge, the Marquis of Lorn, Lord Ronald Leveson-Gower, and Sir Rainald and Lady Knightley have been on a visit to her Majesty at Osborne.

The Queen has also entertained at dinner Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby and the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce.

The Queen will hold a Council to-day (Saturday).

Prince Christian inspected her Majesty's 99th Regiment at Parkhurst on Tuesday. His Royal Highness was received by Major Welman, commanding. The Prince, after being received by the regiment with a Royal salute, walked down the ranks. His Royal Highness partook of luncheon with the officers of the regiment after the inspection.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by his guests, drove from Sandringham, on Wednesday and Thursday week, to Houghton Hall, the seat of the Marquis of Cholmondeley, and shot through the preserves each day, afterwards dining at the hall. The Princess of Wales, with her various visitors, also drove to Houghton in sledges. Their Royal Highnesses gave a dance, on Thursday week, to the servants of the Royal household at Sandringham. On the following evening the Prince and Princess gave a ball to the tenant farmers of the neighbourhood, with their wives and daughters. The party numbered about 250. A sumptuous supper was served, and dancing was kept up with great spirit, until an early hour on the following morning. On Monday the Prince, attended by Lieut.-Colonel Teesdale, left Sandringham for Marlborough House. On Tuesday his Royal Highness left town for Berkeley Castle, on a visit to Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge. The Prince arrived at Berkeley Castle at seven o'clock in the evening. His Royal Highness has had excellent sport wild-goose shooting on the banks of the Severn, and duck-shooting on the decoy pools. A large party was invited by Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge to meet their Royal guest, among which were the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, the Earl and Countess of Westmoreland, and the Marquis of Worcester.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and Lady Rosamond Spencer Churchill left Blenheim Palace, on Wednesday, to visit the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury.

The Duke and Duchess of Wellington returned to Apsley House, on Saturday last, from Strathfieldsaye.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter gave a ball, on Thursday night, at Burghley House, Northamptonshire.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury have been entertaining a succession of guests since the commencement of the new year at Hatfield House. The hospitalities terminated on Tuesday night with the county ball at Hatfield House.

The Countess of Mayo arrived at Bombay on the 13th inst., en route for Calcutta.

Earl De Grey, Lord President of the Council, has arrived at his residence in Carlton-gardens, from Studley Royal.

The Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue, M.P., and Frances Countess Waldegrave have arrived in town from Dublin.

The marriage of Lord Guernsey with Edith, third daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Peers Williams, of Temple House, Berks, was solemnised on Sunday, before the morning service, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square. The marriage took place earlier than had been arranged in consequence of the dangerous condition of his Lordship's father, the Earl of Aylesford. The noble Earl expired at two o'clock on Tuesday morning, at the family residence in Grosvenor-street.

Sir John Ramsden, Bart., M.P., has recovered from an attack of scarlet fever, and left town on Monday, accompanied by Lady Gwendolin Ramsden, for Byram, in Yorkshire.

The Right Hon. the Premier has arrived in town from Hawarden Castle.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mrs. Lowe have returned to town from Bowood.

The annual county ball, given in aid of one of the local charities, took place, on Tuesday last, in the spacious assembly-rooms of Stamford. The gathering from the four counties which immediately border on the ancient town was unprecedentedly numerous.

Mr. George Shaw-Lefevre has accepted the Under-Secretaryship for the Home Department; Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen will succeed Mr. Monsell at the Colonial Office; Mr. Arthur Peel becomes Secretary to the Board of Trade; and Mr. Hibbert, the only new addition to the Government, takes Mr. Peel's place as Secretary to the Poor-Law Board.

"NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

It was hardly to be expected that such an institution as the Co-operative System would be permitted peacefully to expand into vigorous life, and become generally recognised by persons who have learned the value of money. The very natural hostility felt towards it by the class which it deprives of profits has simmered for a long time, but is now boiling over in the columns of some of our contemporaries. Hitherto, however, the arguments which have been employed against the system have been little else than abuse or impertinence; but a direful spectre is now being raised, and if this apparition can terrify the patrons of the "Stores" a grand victory will be achieved. It must be owned that those persons have taken all previous assaults very calmly. They have only smiled when a raging retailer asks how ladies can "stoop" to let their jars of preserves be placed in the same carriage with themselves. They have not been daunted by being told that folk who deal at the stores shall deal there only, and that in their extremest need no "regular" tradesman ought to sell them so much as an ounce of mustard. Members of the Civil Service have been informed that they are paid by the people, of whom the retailers are part, and therefore that they are "bound" to spend their money among the people; and yet these officials have neither torn up their store-cards nor resigned office. Country clergymen with £90 a year and nine children have been insulted for occasionally getting groceries from London instead of paying three profits on them, and have been told that their flocks will engage "parsons on the co-operative system." All this sort of thing has been endured—perhaps a good deal of it has not been noticed. But now is thrust forward, as we have said, a fearful vision, a grim horror. Persons who object to pay high prices for bad articles, and also to pay the debts of persons who do not pay their own, are solemnly warned that "co-operation is communism," and that we are hastening on our way to a state of things when no man shall exactly want, but no man shall be allowed to be rich. If that frightful warning does not shut up the Stores, people who have learned the value of money must be callous indeed, and, like the accused person in Shakespeare, had better be allowed to continue in their evil courses until somebody knows what they are.

Only in the *Daily Telegraph* have I seen an account of the slaughter of the Paris elephants. Two, not three, are stated to have been slain, and their names were Castor and Pollux. It is a comfort to know that the painful work was done in a scientific manner; and the story contrasts with the account which some of us are old enough to have read at the time, of the putting to death of the great Chumy in Exeter Change. One of the French elephants was destroyed by an explosive shell, invented by M. Devismes, and it died without a struggle. The other received one ball in the side of its head, and the other full front, and dropped as one of its brethren in Ceylon might have fallen before the rifle of Sir Samuel Baker. So the work has been mercifully done. Of its necessity the authorities must be the best judges. Mr. Du Maurier made the hippopotamus in Regent's Park remind the pretty young lady, "Mornin', Miss. Now, to look at us two, who'd think that I ate nothing but rice, and you ate beefsteaks?" Elephants do not eat anything which is needed for the food of human beings, and what are even two elephants among the thousands in Paris? I own the business looks like a sensational execution; but it is hard, and would be harsh, to condemn anything done in the unparalleled circumstances in which Paris now is.

The good-nature of the American character is proverbial; and I have no doubt that the Parisian representatives of the United States find it a labour of love to examine the long list of advertisements in the *Times*, and to send what is mostly good news to the advertisers' relatives in Paris. It is not ungratifying to observe that the majority of those who take this means of communicating with their friends send cheering messages. Everybody is well, the boys are working hard, the girls are under the kindest care, somebody has had a new baby, and the conditions are perfectly delightful, money can be had on application to a given address, the balloon letters have been received and more are desired. But what a feature in the history of the war are these *Times* columns! And when the war shall be over and half forgotten, how the historian's mind will be impressed with the stern reality of the siege when he turns to these records, and has it before him that exiles from France could not communicate with their friends in Paris save by a London advertisement to be passed in by an American Minister!

Charity has been enormously called upon during the last six months, and she has answered nobly. But when the claims of the sick and wounded had been heeded, and the case of the starving peasantry in the east of France had been considered, and prisoners' wants had not been forgotten, it may have been thought that we should have leisure to attend to our own poor, whose sufferings at Poplar and elsewhere are, though not exceptional, very severe. Much, indeed, has been done for them, but the relief-boxes are emptied or emptying; and, perhaps, the duty of those who have but a little to spare is to send it to the magistrates, who are sure to see it applied properly. But, if there is more to give, there are more claimants. The Bishop of Versailles, the Bishop of London, and the Bishop of the Baptists unite in asking aid for the French who are in the zone that has been devastated by the besiegers of Paris, and whose condition is most terrible; for they have been deprived, not only of all they had, but of the means of cultivating their soil. Their case is very sad, and yet theirs is not the last one on the list. There has been a great inundation in Rome; the river has risen enormously, and great ruin has been wrought. It is suggested by a benevolent and noble lady that perhaps there may be a trifle (let it be said that she asks it very reluctantly) for these poor Romans, who have lost their all. Something, no doubt, will be done for them.

But we are barbarians, after all. We can make an embankment and a viaduct, and throw railway-bridges over frightful precipices, and lay wires that absolutely beat the sun, and deliver messages before the hour at which they are dispatched. But we cannot keep our streets clean. Look at London now. "The proud, golden city" can hardly dare to return the gaze. We have had a few days of snow, and the metropolis of the world is one foul marsh, black with indescribable mud. Walking is out of the question, and driving is a question taken out of our hands: if a cabman is good-tempered, or thinks that you are; he will take you; if not, you had better give up your dinner engagement. The "contractors" (did anybody ever see one of these beings?) are powerless, but complacent. They say that it is very difficult to remove snow; besides, it comes again and again. To be sure, the police do not allow us that excuse when we leave it before our doors; but then a contractor is a big man, and knows vestrymen. Here we are, anyhow, in a hideous state; and one would like to know what the foreigners, now plentiful among us, think of the "practical nation."

THE VICEROY OF INDIA AT JEYPORE.

The public entry of the Earl of Mayo, Governor-General of India, into the city of Jeypore, on Oct. 12, was a very grand affair. The procession was a mile and a half long. It was led by two hundred sons of the Jeypore nobility on horseback, with detachments of cavalry, artillery, and infantry for an escort. The Viceroy was mounted on the state elephant, with the Maharajah of Jeypore. He was preceded, on elephants, by his son, Lord Naas, his private secretary, his military secretary, and Captain Bradford, political agent at Jeypore. Then came all the Government officials on elephants, and more cavalry and artillery brought up the rear. The elephant which bore Lord Mayo and the native Prince is described as a fine animal, nearly a hundred years old. The magnificent howdah was of solid silver, with handsome gold mountings, worth a large sum of money. Our illustration is from a sketch by a clever amateur artist, Dr. de Fabek. As the procession entered Jeypore, through the principal gateway, the beauty of that city burst on the spectators with startling effect. The main street, which is about a mile long and thirty yards broad, consists of very handsome houses, of fine architecture, and with a variety of colouring. As soon as the Viceroy was seen entering the gateway all the people in the streets and houses stood up to welcome him; the bands played the Royal anthem, and the artillery thundered a salute. The point of view in the sketch shows the procession in the act of turning from the principal street, through another very fine one, leading by his Highness's palace to the Residency. Lord Mayo remained a week in this city, inspecting all the institutions, charities, and useful works begun or encouraged by the present enlightened Prince of Jeypore. His Highness, who is a member of the Legislative Council of India, and well known for his loyalty to the Crown and for the justice of his rule, spared no expense or trouble in making the occasion one memorable in the annals of Rajpootana, as the first visit of a British Viceroy to that part of India.

RELIEF FOR FRENCH FARMERS.

Lord Vernon has been elected president of the organisation for supplying seed to the peasant farmers in those portions of France which have been overrun by the German armies. The subscriptions already received amount to £1370. The following gentlemen were invited to become the executive committee:—The chairman, treasurer, hon. secretaries—Mr. C. S. Read, M.P.; Mr. J. Caird, C.B.; Messrs. J. C. Morton, O. Willis, R. Leeds, J. Aveling, and G. Odams. The president was requested to communicate with the Ambassadors of France and the North German Confederation to ascertain what assistance would be given to ensure that the seeds sent to the distressed families should be used only for sowing the land. The secretary was instructed to communicate with the railway and canal companies with the object of obtaining free conveyance of the seeds; and the executive committee was desired to draw up a circular suggesting the kinds of seeds that are likely to be most useful. There were placed on the general committee the chairman, treasurer, and secretary of every agricultural association and farmers' club in the kingdom. Subscriptions can be paid in to the London and County Bank.

The East Kent farmers met last Saturday to devise some means for the relief of the French farmers and peasantry. Lord Fitzwalter recommended that the fund raised should be held over for distribution until peace had been proclaimed between the two contending Powers, because if it were appropriated during the progress of the conflict it would be almost waste, and the good done would be undone. Lord Harris took a similar view. About £200 was collected, and many promises of seed-corn were made.

Mr. William Langton, the chairman of the Mersey Dock Board for the past year, has been unanimously re-elected chairman for the ensuing year.

A newly-erected sailors' home and reading-room has been opened at Kingstown, Dublin, by Admiral Sir Burton M'Namara, in presence of a numerous assemblage. The first stone of the building was laid by Earl and Countess Spencer on May 4 last. Its successful completion in the short interval that has elapsed is mainly due to the exertions of Captain Hutchinson, the harbour-master, to whom a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE WAR.

Our Special Artist, Mr. Landells, at the Prussian headquarters at Versailles, who was lately at Orleans, contributes a couple of sketches of the Christmas festival sports and seasonable pastimes in which the Germans have been indulging, while they have made it a sad Christmas for the people of Paris. He was invited, in company with the correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, and with an American military officer, to the Christmas-Eve party given by Count von Alvensleben, Captain of the fifth company of the second battalion of the 2nd Regiment of Prussian Guard Landwehr, in the village of Fontenay-le-Fleury. Count von Alvensleben was quartered in a large house, belonging to a Conseiller des Archives of the French Empire. A great Christmas-tree had been erected in the chief salon of the house—a large, square apartment, handsomely furnished, and adorned with Chinese pictures. Upon the shelves of two whatnots were ranged the prizes—about sixty in number—meerschauts, wooden pipes with huge bowls, cigar-holders, packets of tobacco, parcels of chocolate, woollen gloves, knitted stockings, bundles of cigars, and bright new thalers. At five o'clock the host conducted his English visitors to the Fest-Saal, where they found the company of soldiers assembled in its full strength, and a small group of officers gathered round the blazing tree. A large silver-gilt tureen was brought in and deposited at Count von Alvensleben's feet. It contained the numbers to be drawn, and was greeted with a buzz of interested expectation. Before commencing the drawing Count von Alvensleben addressed his men in a short and stirring speech, reminding them of their far-distant homes, in which, doubtless, their kinsfolk and friends were celebrating Christmas Eve in the same good old German fashion. He then called for three cheers for the King, after which the business of the meeting was proceeded with. Count von Alvensleben called out each man's name in alphabetical order, and the strapping, bearded, square-shouldered fellows made their way in turn up to the tureen, from which they extracted their numbers with due solemnity. As each number was called, the Lieutenants in charge of the prize-list responded, and the men either got their prizes or faced about ruefully to the disappointing announcement, "S ist nichts!" ("It is nothing!") When all the names had been called, and all the good things distributed to the winners, plumcakes and huge mugs of punch were brought in and handed round. The Major made a speech, congratulating the men upon their good relations with their officers, and comparing them with the French soldiers, very much to the disadvantage of the latter; moreover, com-

plimenting the Captain upon the success of his treat, and calling for three cheers for him. As soon as this officer had taken his leave, the musicians of the company struck up "Ich bin ein Preuss, kennst Du meine Farbe?" followed by the "Wacht am Rhein," and a comic medley which brought down the house. Then a non-commissioned officer exhorted the company to express its gratitude to its noble Captain by three thundering "Hochs!" The Count thanked them fervently for their good will and admirable conduct, and proposed the health of "The Fifth Company," with musical honours, followed by the National Hymn, in which the Englishmen heartily joined; the air, "Heil Dir im Sieger-Kranz!" being identical with our "God Save the Queen!"

On Christmas Day the ice was so thick and strong upon all the waters in the neighbourhood of Paris, that it would have borne artillery. In the park of Versailles the great ponds were covered with crowds of skaters—many Prussians, a few Americans and Englishmen, and a very few Frenchmen.

Some of the figures that glided about, more or less gracefully, upon the burnished bosom of the lake, were quaintly out of keeping with preconceived notions respecting skating costume. It was strange to see upon the ice a gigantic officer of cuirassiers, 6 ft. 4 in. in height, and proportionately broad, with huge jackboots reaching to mid-thigh, regulation spurs, and an enormous sword buckled to his side. What would happen to him thus accoutred were he to fall? The wonder was how well these sturdy warriors performed. They have certainly profited by their cold winters at home, for many of them are first-rate skaters in a rough and ready style. They go fast and turn boldly, with plenty of confidence in their training, though it is only some of the officers who seem to be up to the mark of club skating. There was much fun among the small French boys when a German had a fall; and there was much punting about on little sledges by the same boys. It was remarked, too, that the conquerors would allow themselves to be tripped up and hampered by the sledges with wonderful good nature;

and when a German soldier appeared on a sledge, surrounded and harassed by other sledges, his skirmishes with the French boys excited roars of laughter among his comrades. Some ladies, wrapped in warm shawls, were seen upon the ice. The Crown Prince of Prussia, Count Moltke, and General Blumenthal came to see the sport. The great guns of the French forts were heard thundering all the time.

From the pencil of the same Artist we have received two illustrations of the scenes now and then witnessed in the town of Versailles—one is a funeral procession, such as may be too frequently seen there; the other is a search for concealed arms in a private house, resolutely pursued by a party of Prussian Landwehr. The expostulations and protestations of the master of the house, the affected calmness but severe indignation of his wife, and the excited curiosity of his daughter, while their chests of drawers and presses are ransacked for contraband of war, seem very naturally portrayed. The little boy, too, sorrowfully bringing his toy gun and offering to surrender it



SEARCHING FOR ARMS AT VERSAILLES.

the big German soldier, who looks down upon him with an expression of kindly fun, promising that he shall not be deprived of so valuable a weapon, is a pleasant figure. A scene of very different character is that of the unfortunate French prisoners of war, huddled together in the Orleans Railway station, awaiting their departure to the destined place of their dreary detention till the end of the war. They were ill-fed and ill-clad, and had suffered terribly from cold and fatigue.

The balloon post from inside the city of Paris has brought us two sketches, by French artists, which are engraved for the present week. One is a view, from the outer side, of the barricade at the Barrière du Trône, at the east end of Paris. This barricade is erected between the two memorial columns of St. Louis and Philippe Auguste, old Kings of France. It is constructed of paving-stones, with sacks of earth on the top; there are four embrasures for guns and loopholes for riflemen; the sides are steep, and protected by ditches, with planks having sharp iron points set in them. The other barricades, on each side of the roadway, cover the spaces between the columns and the small booths formerly used by the tolltaker

of the octroi, or city dues. The pupils of the Ecole du Nord, desirous of contributing to the defence of Paris, but too young to join the army, lately obtained permission of the Government, and of M. de Flavigny, President of the International Society for the Relief of the Wounded, to march through Paris soliciting gifts for the ambulances. After making a profitable collection on the right bank of the Seine, they crossed the river, and met with equal success on the other side. Our illustration shows them in the Quartier Latin, in front of the Ecole de Médecine. The procession is headed by a drummer of the National Guard, followed by the drummers and trumpeters of the school, whose favourite airs are the "Marseillaise" and the "Chant du Départ." Next comes a member of the staff of the ambulances, carrying the large white flag, with the red cross in the centre, prescribed by the Congress of Geneva. Then follow the collectors themselves, amongst whom are both schoolboys and National Guards. An unarmed company of National Guards bring up the rear.

The last oxen in possession of the Government at Paris available for the daily rations given to the population, at the

rate of an ounce per head per diem, were stalled in sheds erected in the Boulevard d'Enfer, against the wall of the Cemetery of Montrouge. The number remaining at the period when our Artist's sketch was taken was extremely small; and it will be seen from our Special Correspondent's diary in Paris, which we have published from week to week, that so long as three weeks ago beef had ceased to form a portion of the rations of the Parisians, though it was to be obtained at some of the more expensive restaurants. We understand that, to the very last, such horned cattle as remained in Paris were objects of intense curiosity on the part of the Parisians, who have taken far greater interest in these oxen, of course, than the visitors to our Smithfield Club Cattle Show did in the winners of the chief prizes at the Islington Agricultural Hall. The supply of fresh beef is at an end in the once luxurious capital of France.

The subject of another Illustration of the War is to be found in London; it is the bustling scene of dispatching a quantity of stores, collected at the Prussian Embassy, for the relief of the German sick and wounded.



FRENCH PRISONERS AT THE ORLEANS RAILWAY STATION.

FROM INSIDE PARIS.

(BY BALLOON POST.)

FOURTEENTH WEEK OF THE SIEGE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Sunday, Dec. 18.—Everything tends to the belief that the anticipated sortie is at last about to take place. We have a new communication from M. Gambetta in the *Journal Officiel* of this morning informing us that "the Army of the Loire, far from being annihilated, according to the lies of the Prussians, has been divided," and that we shall have two armies marching upon Paris from the south instead of one. "The Prussian retreat," continues M. Gambetta, "is a movement concerning which there can be no mistake. If we can only hold out, and we can if we have only the will, we shall beat them. They have already suffered enormous losses, and experience the greatest difficulty in obtaining supplies of food. But to triumph we must resign ourselves to supreme sacrifices without murmuring, and fight even unto death."

The newspapers for the most part exult immensely over Gambetta's communication. The *Patrie* believes that General Chanzy will not only hold Prince Frederick Charles in check but crush General Manteuffel; the *Pays* says the invaders must shortly see, if they do not see already, that the best thing they can do is to return home while the road is open to them; the *Moniteur* points out that Chanzy, far from retreating, is actually approaching nearer to Paris, and that Prince Frederick Charles cannot succeed in passing the Loire; and the *Liberté* thinks the moment has now arrived for Paris to act energetically, and regardless of the sacrifices she may be called upon to make. Two of the more temperate journals (the *Temps* and the *Opinion Nationale*) whose opinions on military topics are entitled to respect, content themselves, the one with remarking that the situation appears reassuring, the other that, placed as the Prussians on the Loire appear to be between two powerful armies, a single check or defeat from whatever quarter or whatever nature would inflict upon the army of Prince Frederick Charles serious disaster. By way of a wet blanket, however, the *Combat* of this morning publishes a letter from a National Guard employed at the national printing-office, to the effect that, on Wednesday last, a placard was ready, and only awaited orders to be printed off, which contained the following plebiscitary proposition:—"Are you in favour of continuing the defence? Yes or no?" Spite of the disfavour in which the journal of M. Felix Pyat is held, it is remembered that he was the first to inform us of the negotiation for the surrender of Metz, and people are disposed to believe in the truth of the foregoing announcement, which is authenticated by the name of the individual making it and the number of the company to which he belongs. The *Opinion Nationale*, moreover, attacks the Government for its inaction, and asks why, with an army of 400,000 men and a formidable artillery, sixteen days have been allowed to elapse without anything being done. "We neither try to pierce the lines nor to raise the siege, nor even risk partial actions, in order to kill as many Prussians as possible. We are losing time; we are eating up our stores, and we are not pushing on the work of deliverance. This inaction is deplorable. It allows the enemy to detach 100,000 or even 200,000 men from Paris, and to send them into the provinces to the succour of Prince Frederick Charles. Why, we may ask, were the war battalions of the National Guard formed? Was it for precaution or action? Why are cannon being made by thousands and projectiles by hundreds of thousands? Was it to offer to the King of Prussia examples of Parisian industry on the day when hunger forces us to capitulate? Let Parisians die, but save Paris!" Trochu's reputation is evidently on the wane. People have waited patiently for the development of his plan without being too curious respecting its nature, and in presence of the recent inaction they are fast losing confidence in the military genius of the Governor of Paris.

A reconnaissance was made during the day by some officers with a couple of Seine gun-boats, the object of which was to inspect the enemy's positions between Fort de la Briche and Epinay. At the same time the troops encamped on the plateau of Avron advanced in the direction of Gagny, when the commander, having observed some Prussians installed in an isolated house, gave orders for the building to be shelled, which resulted in its occupants being buried beneath the ruins.

The *Presse* announces that the submarine telegraph cable between England and France has been cut by the Prussians, and that the English Government are excessively irate at this act of vandalism.

Monday, Dec. 19.—The *Journal Officiel* of to-day replies to the reproaches which have been lately addressed to the Government on the seeming indecision it has recently shown, and which, according to certain journals, has seriously compromised the defence. "The Government programme," it says, "is simple. To combat the foreign invasion until it is repelled by force of arms or by an honourable arrangement. If Paris stood alone in its resistance, duty would even then command its continuation. But, thank Heaven! notwithstanding chequered successes, the efforts of the provinces unite with ours. . . . Who would have thought a few weeks ago that our young Army of the Loire would by a ten days' combat arrest the various armies of the enemy, and not only have held them in check, but have repulsed them, and inflicted on them serious losses? For the last three months Paris has submitted to the greatest sufferings, and her constancy grows with her experience. Paris knows she can suffer still more, and repudiates with horror the thought of a capitulation, which fear of an aggravation of her sufferings might wring from her. The Government has no other merit but to join in this sentiment, and to become the executive of her will. However great the strength of the enemy, it is inferior to that of the French nation; and the Government of National Defence announce their indomitable resolution to fight and to conquer, feeling without fear of self-delusion that, with all France on their side, they are certain to succeed in their sacred enterprise." Fine and brave words enough, such as have been dinning into our ears day after day for a couple of months past, during which time we have turned every man capable of bearing arms into a soldier, have eaten up all our sheep and oxen, and have cast innumerable cannon that were to clear a passage through the Prussian lines, and yet, to all appearances, we are more tightly in the enemy's grip than ever.

The distress is now very great, and the poorer classes suffer, if anything, more from cold than hunger. Madame Hamelin, widow of a former Ambassador at Constantinople, was recently found dead in her bed in a wretched apartment at Belleville, the victim of cold and starvation. The British Charitable Fund, a purely private institution, has at the present moment upwards of a thousand persons dependent upon it for relief, a large proportion of whom would gladly have left Paris when such a course was open to them if the Embassy had taken the smallest trouble to let English residents know of it and had not intimated to all comers that under no circumstances could

it charge itself with any portion of the expense of sending British subjects home from Paris. The death-rate of the past week has attained the appalling number of 2728, being upwards of double the ordinary rate at this season of the year, and 273 more than were registered during the preceding week. Of course, this large increase of mortality is satisfactorily accounted for by the medical journals, which attribute it to the recent great variations of temperature, the sudden transition from moisture to cold, and from dry cold to lukewarm and rainy weather—it is these, say they, which have had such a pernicious effect on the public health.

Tuesday, Dec. 20.—This morning, at the early hour of two o'clock, the balloon General Chanzy made its ascent from the Northern Railway station with several passengers, one of whom is said to be charged with a communication to the various French arsenals embracing the details of a most murderous engine of war, the experiments made with which in Paris have furnished, we are told, some terrific results. It is anticipated that this formidable engine will take part in the coming sortie, the preparations for which have been making for several days past. Orders have been given for all the gates to be closed. The marching companies of the National Guard, provided with 120 rounds of ammunition per man, have had their posts assigned them; battalions of sappers and miners have been dispatched to the front with materials for the construction of bridges; and trains of artillery waggons, for which a thousand horses have been supplied by the omnibus company, are hourly proceeding towards the scene of the proposed operations. At the same moment that all these warlike preparations are being made, the well-known inclosed wooden stalls are in course of erection on the boulevards in anticipation of New-Year's Day, and carts laden with Christmas-trees are being drawn through the streets. By way of preliminary to the forthcoming engagement, there has been to-day a continued exchange of musketry on the peninsula of Gennevilliers between the sharpshooters of both armies, but without any appreciable result. Large bodies of French troops are concentrated here, and also in the Bois de Vincennes, it is said.

Wednesday, Dec. 21.—The promised sortie has been made to-day, and, according to what one hears, the attack has wellnigh embraced half the circumference of the city, having been directed, on the one hand, against Stains, and on another against Le Bourget, that now coveted position which seven weeks since General Trochu pronounced to be of no use whatever to the defence. While these attacks were going on, a demonstration, supported by the guns of Fort Valérien, was being made on the western side of Paris.

Thursday, Dec. 22.—The military report of yesterday's fighting states that on the French right Generals de Malroy and Blaise, under the direction of General Vinoy, occupied Neuilly-sur-Marne, the Villa Evrard, and the Maison Blanche. The enemy's fire, it goes on to say, was quieted on all the points where he had established batteries to check our advance, after a severe artillery combat, in which General Favé, commander of the artillery of the Third Army, was wounded. The redoubt constructed on the Plateau d'Avron, together with the fort of Nogent, supported our operations. Early in the morning the troops under the command of Admiral La Roncière, consisting of sailors, soldiers of the Line, and Gardes Mobiles of the Seine, attacked Le Bourget, but the first column which penetrated into the village was unable to maintain itself there, and retired after capturing several hundred prisoners, who were at once sent off to Paris. At this period General Ducrot caused a portion of his artillery to advance and engage in a violent contest with the Prussian batteries at Pont Iblon and Blanc Mesnil. In the evening the troops under his command occupied the farm of Groslay and Drancy. General Noel had made a strong demonstration westward of Paris against Montretout, Buzenval, and Longbajou, at an early hour of the morning, and the commander of the engineer corps of Mont Valérien took possession of the Isle of Chiard. The mobilised National Guard was engaged with the regular troops, and, like them, displayed considerable ardour. The number of killed and wounded is not yet known, still it is far from considerable, having regard to the vast surface over which the operations were developed. The sailors of the garrison of St. Denis, engaged in the attack on Le Bourget, suffered most severely. The Governor of Paris passes the night on the field of action with his troops. There was no fighting whatever to-day.

Friday, Dec. 23.—To-day our troops, in spite of the excessive cold—some 12 deg. below freezing-point, which has prevented their intrenching themselves—still occupy the positions to which they advanced on Wednesday, with the exception of Neuilly, which had to be abandoned in consequence of its having been set on fire by the Prussian artillery. The general belief is that the struggle will be renewed.

We learn from the military report published this morning that on Wednesday some of the enemy who had concealed themselves in the cellars of Villa Evrard took advantage of the night to make an attack upon the French troops occupying this position. They were vigorously repulsed, the greater number being either killed or taken prisoners. The French, however, have to mourn the loss of General Blaise, who fell at the head of his troops. The report further states that, according to the prisoners captured on Wednesday, the Prussian losses on that occasion were very serious.

A letter said to be from the Count de Chambord, and evidently written with the intention of creating dissension among the troops, is being circulated among the Breton Mobiles. It is dated Berne, Dec. 2, and, according to the story which has gone the round of the newspapers, was given by a peasant to some Finistère Mobiles at the outposts. However, no more credence is attached to it than to the false pigeon despatches with which we were favoured a little while since.

In the *Journal Officiel* appears an acknowledgment of thanks from M. Jules Favre for the sum of 60,000f. given by a M. Laurent for patriotic purposes—being 20,000f. for the wounded, and 40,000f. for the widows and orphans of the citizens who have fallen in the defence of Paris. It also contains a caution to all those detaining the arms of the wounded, which are required to be delivered up within forty-eight hours.

Some idea of the state of our food supply may be gleaned from the fact that, a few days since, 4000 eggs were sold at the Halles Centrales, after much competition, at the rate of 1023f. per 1000, about 1f. apiece. The dealer to whom they belonged is said to have a large stock on hand, and to be selling them off in small lots; but it is difficult to understand who can afford to buy them at such a price.

Saturday, Dec. 24.—The military report informs us this morning that the troops have suffered much from the excessive cold, which still prevents their intrenching themselves in their new positions. It also states that on Thursday the Commandant of Fort Issy made a brilliant reconnaissance in the Bois de Clamart, with eight companies of the Gardes Mobiles of the

Seine. The losses on either side do not appear to have been very heavy.

Many National Guards having expressed their disgust at not having been allowed to take a more prominent part in the affair of Wednesday, the *Temps* to-day comes out with a very sensible article, explaining to them that in nearly every battle a certain portion of the forces in the field must necessarily remain in a state of more or less inactivity, and that the mere fact of their being present and ready to take part in the action if required serves to neutralise an equal number of the enemy's troops. This feeling among the National Guards certainly serves as evidence, if any were required, of the warlike spirit with which the Paris population is now animated, and of their indisposition to capitulate until reduced to the last extremity.

NEW BOOKS AND NEW EDITIONS.

Two or three of the class of ornamental table-books, suited to this season of pretty and pleasant gifts to friends, or of special treats by purchase for self, are still awaiting our notice, after the crowd of Christmas and New Year's publications already mentioned. *The Story of Sir Richard Whittington, Lord Mayor of London*, written in old-fashioned English ballad verse, by E. Carr, and illustrated, by the same hand, with more than a dozen clever designs in outline, finely engraved on large plates, is published by Messrs. Longmans and Co. It is dedicated to a lady, Mrs. Stackhouse Acton. The prose memoir, derived from a book by the Rev. Canon Lysons, "The Model Merchant of the Middle Ages," tells us what is really known of Whittington, who was Lord Mayor in the years 1397, 1406, and 1419. He was the youngest son of an impoverished Gloucestershire knight. He came to this city as an orphan child, almost destitute, and served in the house of Alderman Fitzwarren, whose daughter Alice he afterwards married. There is no great improbability in the incident of the cat; Morocco was terribly infested with rats, and the first tame cat exported from England to that country would fetch a high price. The discovery of a stone carving which represents a boy of nine years with a cat in his arms, in the old house at Gloucester occupied by Whittington's family within a few years of his life-time, is justly thought to confirm this agreeable story. Whittington's public spirit and virtues—as a civic magistrate, a State financier, and a liberal dispenser of charity—are yet more certainly recorded. The subject is here treated in a lively, simple, and not ungraceful style, without much affecting the use of quaint and obsolete language; the verses are printed in Old English type. The drawings have their merit, and are free from grotesque exaggeration; but the human figures are more correctly drawn than that of Pussy. The whole is in good taste, and does credit to the author and artist. Messrs. Provost and Co., of Henrietta-street, publish a book about *The Duke of Edinburgh in Ceylon*, containing a series of chromolithographs, by Messrs. Vincent Brooks, Day, and Son, from photographs and original sketches taken on the spot. The narrative of Prince Alfred's sojourn in that island, from the end of March to the second week in May, with his visit to Kandy, his sport in hunting and elephant-driving, and the festivities prepared for him by the colonists and natives, is written by Mr. John Capper, the *Times*' correspondent. Many persons will like to read it again.

New story-books, of that freely fantastic kind which is congenial to the seasonable diversions of Christmas and Twelfth Night, are still coming into our hands. We would rather enjoy than criticise them. Like Mr. George MacDonald's candid little boy, in one of the best now before us, *At the Back of the North Wind* (republished by Strahan from *Good Words for the Young*) we would allow the kind gentleman who makes these stories to "try them on us," as mother does when she makes a lot of jam, bidding her favourite young one taste the savoury mess, to see if it will do. "He doesn't want me to say whether it is a clever story or not, but whether I like it, and why I like it," says the boy. "I never can tell what they call clever from what they call silly; but I always know whether I like a story or not." Upon this principle, we must confess, we do like *At the Back of the North Wind*; and we should not find it difficult to say why. But Mr. MacDonald does not want to be called clever; and he has long since gained a host of readers who fully esteem, without need of our assurance, the rare versatility of his imaginative genius, his skill of invention and construction, his play of delicate humour and exquisite fancy, his intimate knowledge of children's hearts, and his tenderness and truthfulness in dealing with them. In the present instance he has introduced a new supernatural agent, a majestic and beneficent female personage, whose life is the fresh air of the North Wind, and who is constantly passing to and fro upon the most useful missions of health and virtue, though her mighty force is sometimes alarming, or even destructive, to things weak and rotten. The aspect and manners of this grand figure are described as not less engaging than imposing in her conversations and voyages with little "Diamond," the honest cabman's precocious but innocent child, who lets her in through a chink in the wall of the hayloft where he sleeps. The "Back" of the North Wind, it may be well to explain, is that serene and temperate region supposed to exist within the Arctic circle, where no storms can vex the atmosphere, no sorrows trouble the heart. And, since the final access to this typical Heaven is reached by going straight through the chilly form of the magnanimous Angel, when she has retired to her icy seat beyond the realms of animal life, we may guess at the unspoken name that belongs to her last solemn manifestation. Diamond, who is a charming boy, so called after his father's old horse, can drive a cab, nurse baby, sing pretty songs, fight in defence of a poor girl at a street-crossing, or guess at Mr. Raymond's riddles and Miss Coleman's love affairs, besides learning a divine wisdom from the talk of North Wind. It is quite a matter of course that Nanny and Jem should think him "a silly;" but we are of a different opinion. Next to this delightful book for the juvenile reader is *The King of Topsy-turvy* (published by Messrs. Tinsley Brothers), the author of which, Mr. Arthur Lillie, produced that merry little joke, *The Enchanted Toasting Fork*, highly commended by us upon a former occasion. There is nothing much better in the way of whimsical drollery, even in Mr. Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, to which this story bears some affinity in its wild passion for fun and frolic, at any price of improbability, and in the wholesome jollity of its spirit. Yet it is doubtful whether children should be accustomed early to satirical sketches of fools, snobs, and toadies, in the grown-up world. Major Tidmus and the Countess of Toplady are such people as one meets in Thackeray's novels; but they are well exchanged for the exhibition, in Topsy-turvy-land, of that which is ridiculous, but not censurable, and which may be laughed at without prejudice to the humility of childhood. Mr. Henry Kingsley's allegorical fable, *The Boy in Grey* (Strahan and Co.) has some amusing incidents, particularly the recognition of many familiar persons of fiction on the banks of the Minnesewahaha, or River of Happy Recollections; and he has made

good use of his acquaintance with the scenery of Australian and North American travel. But the main conception of his story is feebly wrought out. There is no distinct individuality in the characters of Prince Philarete and his companions, Arturio, Plemos, and Athansio, who personify Royalty, Aristocracy, the Army, and the Church. The Boy in Grey, whom we take to be Conscience or Duty, is scarcely present as an active performer among these shadows, though he leads Philarete a pretty dance all round the globe in pursuit of his wandering flight. Mr. Kingsley, perhaps, intends us to understand some prediction of the moral, social, and political calling of the British nation; but the significance of those tiresome breast-jewels worn by each of the young gentlemen at Court is not readily perceived. The old stock of fairy-tales, after all, continues to afford pleasure; and we are glad to see that Macmillan has brought out another edition of *The Fairy Book*, edited by Mrs. Craik (late Miss Mulock), and adorned with ten pictures by Mr. J. E. Rogers, humorously designed and violently coloured. This is the completest English collection of its kind, including thirty or forty popular favourites—from Cinderella, Tom Thumb, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Red Ridinghood, which are given intact, to some of the best of those preserved by Perrault, Madame d'Aulnois, and Grimm, which Mrs. Craik has collated and adapted. *The Heroes of Asgard*, by A. and E. Keary, another pleasant fable-book published by Macmillan, contains the legends of Scandinavian mythology, respecting the Æsir and their wondrous achievements, Father Odin, Thor, Baldur, and the rest of that mighty company, with the defeats of the Frost-Giants, or Jötuns, of the malicious Loki, and all their evil brood. The task of abridging and adapting these stories has been performed with much literary skill, and also with scholarly correctness, following the safe guidance of such authorities as Karl Simrock and Dr. Dasent, or their predecessors, Laing and Mallett. Miss Sewell, the author of "Amy Herbert," has edited another story, *The Giant*, by the author of "A Fairy Tale for the Nineteenth Century;" it is published by Messrs. Longmans and Co. *The Giant* is more entertaining than Mr. Henry Kingsley's *Boy in Grey*, but its moral teaching is much the same; it is an allegory of Labour and Trade, of political economy and the pursuit of wealth, and of their relations to other elements of human welfare. *A Storehouse of Stories*, edited by Miss Yonge (published by Macmillan), contains some of those good old ones—Philip Quarll, Goody Twoshoes, and half a dozen others, which delighted the children of three generations past, and which may still be found charming. *Ice: A Southern Night's Dream* (Sampson Low, Son, and Marston) is a singular little book, which leads us, capriciously enough, up and down in the by-paths of Portuguese history and local description; but the author's originality of mind has a certain attractive force. The same publishers offer Mrs. Beecher Stowe's Christmas tale for children, *Little Pussy Willow*; and it is only needful to explain that "Pussy Willow" is the pet name of a little girl who lived in New England, and whose happy temper makes her a very desirable little person to know.

Poetry is not yet extinct; and, in spite of Mr. Carlyle's opinion, expressed in a letter which has lately got into print, that "no man now reads verse wholly in earnest," we find more than 200 new works in verse, not including new editions, published in Great Britain during the year. Mr. Robert Buchanan, the author of "London Poems," "Undertones," and "Idylls of Inverburn," is not merely a verse-writer, but a poet; yet we fear he has attempted something beyond his powers in his two latest productions. "The Book of Orm," which was but the introduction to a grand religious epic, left upon our mind a perplexing impression of vague cloud-shadows, interspersed with flecks of sunshine, cast upon the Highland hills, with a mystical commentary on high-flown moods of sentiment. There was in it a lack of healthy humanity, of hearty sympathy with common joys and griefs, a morbid straining after the supernatural, which we should not have expected from the earlier poems of this author. In his lyrical drama of *Napoleon Fallen*, just published by Messrs. Strahan, he follows the example of Mr. Swinburne in taking for his theme of poetic imagination the late astonishing changes of government in France. The Emperor is introduced, in his retirement at Wilhelmshöhe, soliloquising or conversing with his attendants—a physician, a bishop, and a military officer—upon the extraordinary turn of his affairs. He is informed by messengers, as if in a single day, of the events which took place in the months of September and October, at Strasburg and Metz, in Paris, and in Rome; he hears of the complete downfall of the Imperial system, the ruin of the French army, and of the political and civil administration; he is told, also, of the outburst of Republican and patriotic enthusiasm, and of the heroic preparations for national defence. The spirit which may be supposed to animate Paris, under these influences, makes itself known in the passionate songs of a Chorus, which are some of the most powerful passages in the poem. The most interesting parts, however, are those in which the author presents his conception of the Emperor's mind, of his conscious intention and self-estimation:—

I have been a man of peace; a silent man,
Thought-loving, most ambitious to appease
Self-chiding fears of mental littleness;
A builder in the dark of temples fair,
Where men might meet together, not for praise;
A planner of delights for simple men—
In all a man of peace. I struck one blow,
And saw my hands were bloody; from that hour
I knew myself too delicately wrought
For crimson pageants; yea, the sight of pain
Sickened me like a woman. Day and night
I felt that stain on my immortal soul,
And gloved it from the world, and diligently
Wrought the red sword of empire to a scythe
For the swart hands of husbandmen to reap
Abundant harvest. Nay, but hear me swear
I never dreamed such human harvests blest
As spring from that red rain which pours this day
On the fair fields I sowed. Never, oh, God!
Was I a warrior or a thing of blood;
Always a man of peace; in mine ambition
Peace-seeking, peace-engendering; till that day
I saw the half-unloosed bounds of war
Yelp on the chain and gnash their bloody teeth,
Ready to rend mine unoffending child,
In whose weak hand the mimic toy of empire
Trembled to fall. Then feverishly I wrought
A weapon in the dark to smite those hounds
From mine imperial seat: and as I wrought,
One of the fiends that came of old to Cain
Found me, and, since I thirsted, gave to me
A philtre, and in idiocy I drank;
When suddenly I heard, as in a dream,
Trumpets around me silver-tongued, and saw
The many-coloured banners gleam! 't was the sun
Above the crying legions, and I rode
Royal before them, drunk with light and power,
My boy beside me blooming like a rose
To see the glorious show. . . .
O fool, fool, fool! What was I but a fool,
Pleased beyond understanding with a toy,
Till in mine ears the scream of murdered France
Rang like a knell? . . .
The curse of blood was on my hands again!
My gentle boy, with wild affrighted gaze,
Turned from his sire, and moaned; the hounds of war
Screamed round me, glaring with their pitiless eyes,
Innumerable as the eyes of heaven;
I felt the sob of the world's woe; I saw
The fiery rain fall all the innocent air;

And, feeble as a maid who hides her face
In terror at a sword-flash, conscience-struck,
Sick, stupefied, appalled, and all alone,
I tottered, grasped the empty air, and fell!

This soliloquy proves, we think, that the poet has a true insight into the character of Napoleon III.; and we therefore regret his departure from the proper dramatic method in the remaining parts of his composition. The lyrical bursts of invective and execration with which the fallen Emperor is assailed, not only by the Chorus of Republicans, but likewise by Ghosts and immortal Spirits, who ought to know better, have the appearance of a ferocious persecution rather than of an assertion of Divine justice. The aspiration towards a perfect moral world, or *Civitas Dei*, with which Mr. Buchanan ends his poem, is one cherished by every Christian heart; but it will never be realised till we all learn to practise that charity, which is scarcely compatible with so much scolding and cursing, either of emperors, or of knaves and slaves, or of any other persons. It is certainly not just to accuse Napoleon III. of being the author of those social corruptions and vices of Paris which were as rife thirty or forty years ago, to judge from the French literature of that date, as ever under his reign. His political errors have been terribly atoned for; and the poets may now leave him in peace. If Mr. Buchanan is an inspired prophet, we will not debate the grounds of his familiarity with the counsels and judgments of the Almighty. But if he is merely a human poet, we would commend to him the spirit of tolerance, of compassion, and of universal sympathy, which accompanies the genius of Shakspeare.

The next book of poems that claims our attention is *Rehearsals* (published by Messrs. Strahan), a collection of divers short pieces by the Hon. J. Leicester Warren, only son of Lord de Tabley, whose classical tragedy of "Philoctetes" was not undeservedly praised. Mr. Leicester Warren is a ripe scholar of various ancient and modern literary forms; but he has sufficient original force of thought to make his compositions valuable for their own sake. Here and there, as it seems to us, he catches the strain of contemporary poets, Tennyson or Browning, Swinburne or Matthew Arnold; for it is easy to detect, in "The Siren to Ulysses," "Machiavel in Minimis," "A Heathen to his Idol," and "The Fall of the Titans," some echoes of each of these. But such fragments should be regarded more as exercises in poetical style than as efforts of independent genius; their execution is masterly, proving a strong and skilful hand as well as a cultivated taste. The author's mind is deeply imbued with the spirit of Greek mythology; his "Ode to Pan" is as good as the poem by Mr. Edmund Ollier upon the same theme; he comprehends the idea of "Zeus," the unkind but not malignant Supreme Lord; and he can dream, vividly enough, of the nymphs in Arcadia, of the sweet fugitive Daphne, and the death of the fair hunter Adonis, with Cytherea's lament over her slain lover. The most finished of his performances, however, in this kind is the dramatic dialogue of "Pandora," in which a magnificent conception is thoroughly worked out—that of the unconquered Titan refusing the delicious gift of woman's love when offered him by the usurping tyrant of heaven and earth; with her soft pleadings and the warnings of his mild brother, of no avail to shake his heroic purpose. This poem, as a whole, is almost without a fault; it abounds in grand strokes of imagination and in felicities of expression. There is much force also in the soliloquy of "Nimrod" on the interrupted building of Babel. It is remarkable, indeed, that in all those noble reproductions of the figures of the Olympian divinities, and more distinctly in "The Children of the Gods," we find the same melancholy tone of reproach, again and again repeated, accusing Heaven of cruel and selfish indifference to human woes. What is the good of this querulous strain? It is neither Homeric, nor philosophical, nor Christian, and it becomes tiresome after a while. Mr. Leicester Warren should now take leave of the unspiritual, though graceful, Pagan fancies, amidst which his muse has chiefly dwelt. He already shows, in "Joan of Arc," a genuine appreciation of the holier and kindlier spirit of the romantic Middle Ages; and, in some of his occasional pieces, he opens a vein of more genuine wisdom.

It would be ungracious to take no notice of the crowd of less-distinguished verse-writers; but we cannot attempt to pass critical judgment upon the merits of all. Mr. Robert Holt, in *The Scald* (published by Messrs. Longman), has cast into a kind of epic narrative several of the most characteristic old Norse legends: those of Bui, Vagn, and Sigvald; of the Danish King Svend; the Lady Astrida, a persecuted Christian among the rude heathen; and Jarl Hakon, the veteran sea-fighter. Their adventures are related in six-lined rhymed stanzas, which have much energy and spirit, but lack the grace of melodious verse. The diction, too, is frequently harsh and uncouth. We should have liked the story better in prose. *Loveland*, by Mr. Wade Robinson (published by Messrs. Moffat and Co.), belongs to a very different sort of poetry. It is not deficient, certainly, in softness and sweetness of tone, or in depth and truth of sentiment. Besides the allegorical vision, which gives its name to this volume, Mr. Robinson offers a collection of other poems, "chiefly concerning Love," which are pervaded by a pure and tender feeling, and framed with a correct sense of the music of rhythmic words. The long narrative pieces, however—"Loveland," "Zilda," and "The Agapist"—are extremely fanciful and unreal; we greatly prefer the sonnets and little songs, two or three of which are very touching. *Poems of Bygone Years*, edited by the author of "Amy Herbert" (Longmans), appear to be composed by a young lady, of devout and meditative temperament, who habitually thinks in the language of modern religious poetry and finds it the readiest expression of her most cherished thoughts. The Rev. E. Dudley Jackson, Rector of Heaton Norris, gives us a volume of *Naga Lyrics* (published by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.), the contents of which are more serious than might be supposed from its title. Its first piece, an ode upon the memorable loss of the transport-ship Birkenhead, and upon the true heroism of the British soldiers who calmly sank to death, allowing the women and children on board to be saved, is one of the best; and most of the others deal with Scripture history or some religious subject. The three last—namely, "The Bishop and Priest," "The Two Vicars of Bray," and "Mistress Sharp"—are lively and amusing sketches, in a humorous vein. *Poems, Descriptive and Lyrical*, by Thomas Cox (Longmans), are not altogether feeble. The sonnets, more especially, are rather above the common run. The tale of the "Three Old Friends" is fairly told; but the "Vision of the Swallow" is rather a failure. Two friends and literary comrades, Mr. J. A. Blaikie and Mr. E. W. Gosse, have gathered their writings of poetry into a small book, called *Madrigals, Songs, and Sonnets* (Longmans), which contains many things of considerable merit. We do not see, indeed, why the first series of these short pieces should be named "Madrigals," or how these differ in kind from the "Lyrics;" but they are equally musical, thoughtful, and refined in feeling. "The Cry of the Unsatisfied," for instance; "An Invitation," and "The Poet to Nature," are genuine outbursts of

the true lyric spirit; whereas those in the second series are properly idyllic or contemplative, and are good, too, of their kind. Several, also, of the Sonnets—a form of composition which we are glad to see revived—are perfect in harmony of thought and sound. Messrs. Blaikie and Gosse have not read their Keats and Shelley for nothing, upon the sea-beach or cliffs of South Devon, or the banks of the Dartmoor streams, or in tourist rambles through Italy; but this self-culture is its own reward. *A Leaf from the Old Forest* (published by Smart and Allen) is the enigmatical title of a volume of poems, by Mr. J. D. Cossar, which need not detain us long. The chief of them is "King Nimara, a Satire," composed in the metrical form of Longfellow's "Hiawatha." This ought rather to be termed an allegory; Nimara being a personification of Time, while Birth, Life, and Death are represented by the Princes Kalim, Weemus, and Sero. Heaven and Hell, beyond this World, which is Nimara's kingdom, are comprised in the range of vision. We cannot say that we have gone through it; Mr. Cossar may perhaps find a reader somewhere, for this or some of his minor pieces. *Aeneid and Other Poems*, by Sophia Caulfield (Longmans), must likewise be referred to the author's private acquaintance for due estimation. It would be a thankless office to intercept any praises that friends may be enabled sincerely to bestow. There is no reason why the practice of verse-writing should be discouraged; and no offence is given by its exhibition in print.

BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 1870.

The *Publishers' Circular* has recorded during 1870 the publication of 5251 books. This number includes 169 of mere re-entries for changes of price, and 426 imported new American works, leaving a total of new books and new editions published in Great Britain from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1870, of 4656, in the following proportions of 3377 new books and 1279 new editions of books published prior to 1870.

The proportion of new editions to the gross number of the year's publications is about the same as the previous year; but an examination of the table shows on what class of books this dignity is mostly conferred.

By following the line of novels and works of fiction to its total it is seen that, out of 381, the proportion of new editions is 162. This is the highest proportion of any of the fourteen classes. The class of poetry and the drama is the next, being about one half; and travel, &c., has the lowest average of new editions. The largest number of new editions is to be found under the head of theology; and also the largest number of new publications under the same heading, although the proportion is not so large as that of the previous year. The division of education and philology shows an advance of ninety over last year's report, and novels and works of fiction a reduction of eighty-three.

The largest number of new books of any one division in any one month is that of juvenile books in November; and August is the month in which there appears to be the least activity in the trade.

America sends us fifty-five works on theology, but that is not so large a proportion of the whole as in history, &c., of which she sends us fifty-five, which is actually one fourth of the new works under that heading.

The large increase of new publications under travel, &c., in July and August, is caused by the charts and plans—of which we have recorded thirty-five in all—upon the war in France.

It would be almost practicable for a man who had been absent from the world for that space to comprehend the history of the year—certainly to interpret its principal events, and the intellectual course of advancing time—by studying the titles of the books published. Early in the year he would find titles of pamphlets on the land question in Ireland, pamphlets and books on the various ecclesiastical questions, and on the great Catholic Council. In June he would be excited by biographies of Charles Dickens; and in July and August be appalled with maps of the war in France. Later on, pamphlets on metropolitan improvements would acquaint him with building movements in London, and other publications would tell of an impetus given to travels in the air and of balloon navigation. He would discover in the same way that the steam-engine ran untrammelled across the North American continent, and that a thread of water bore our vessels through the Isthmus of Suez. From the commencement to the close of the year, he would find symptoms of agitation going on in educational matters, and would be led to expect great and beneficial results therefrom. November and December, with their almanacks and diaries, would remind him of the coming year, at the threshold of which we now stand.

The analytical table of books published in 1870 shows a total of books on each subject for the year, thus:—Theology, sermons, biblical, &c., 811; educational, philology, classical, &c., 568; juvenile works and tales, 695; novels and other works of fiction, 381; law, jurisprudence, &c., 123; political and social economy, and trade and commerce, 119; arts, science, and fine-art works, 346; travel and geographical research, 338; history and biography, 396; poetry and the drama, 366; year-books and bound volumes of serials, 388; medicine and surgery, 193; belles-lettres, essays, monographs, &c., 249; miscellaneous, including pamphlets not sermons, 159: making a total of 5082.

The aurora of Oct. 24 is described as having presented a magnificent spectacle in South Australia, the whole of the southern heavens being illuminated, and the brilliant coruscations extending from the horizon to an altitude of about 65 deg.

The evergreen trade of New York has grown to enormous proportions. At Christmas, 1869, there were in the market about 113,000 trees and nearly 200,000 yards of evergreen wreathing; and there has been a most remarkable increase this Christmas. The large trees, above 10 ft., are for churches and public institutions; the "rope" sells at 4 cents to 6 cents per yard. There are also large masses of stars, crosses, and other devices. It is said that Trinity parish expends this Christmas about 800 dols. for the evergreens for its half dozen churches and chapels; and that St. Thomas's Church, in Fifth-avenue, expends nearly 500 dols., and would probably have the most gorgeous display. St. George's expends 400 dols. The evergreen embellishments are being rapidly adopted by other than Episcopal churches. The scenes in the vicinity of the evergreen head-quarters, near Washington-market, two days before Christmas, were very remarkable. In places the streets were piled with solid masses of trees, vines, and bushes, which looked like little ranges of hills. The sidewalks were walled in by tall cypress and cedar clumps, which effectually excluded the sunlight, and compelled the store-keepers to use gas. The tree-sellers pay rent—sometimes 100 dols. for a small space for ten days—to these storekeepers. The profit of this trade is mostly reaped by the Hudson-mountaineers, who cut their stock from wild valueless ground, freight it by water routes at very low rates, and sell it near the wharf of landing. The evergreen "rope" is made in the mountain districts by girls.



THE LAST OXEN IN PARIS (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST).

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

An uncertain constituency is that of Nottingham; but it is always certain in one respect, that, however often it may change its representatives, it always contrives to return men of more or less mark. A glance backward at the list of its members, varying at almost every election, would prove this; and even now, at least one of them is in his way a personage. For Mr. Auberon Herbert has signalled himself by stepping out of the traditions of a Tory family into complete Radicalism, tempered by a general profession of philanthropy, and a special devotion to the interests of the working classes. Anyone in his position who does this soon becomes remarkable, and finds himself in something of a position of leadership, one which Mr. Auberon Herbert could hardly ever have attained in the Conservative ranks, inasmuch as his brother, the Earl of Carnarvon, would stand in his way in that regard. Naturally when he found himself almost a platform hero, he turned his attention to a seat in Parliament; tried Berkshire at the election of 1868; failed, though he stood under very favourable auspices; and, when a seat at Nottingham became vacant at the beginning of last year, won it. It must be confessed that the reputation which he has obtained seems to have been based more on the palpable earnestness of conviction and the special sympathies which have made him what he is as a public man, than on remarkable development of capability or eloquence. Judging from what he has attempted in the House, he is as yet unable to display the force of character with which, of course, he must be gifted, and as yet he hardly comes within the category of even promising young public men. He has, however, an excellent standpoint, and one of his inspirations must have something in him; so that, if he will take care to address the House for the present at less length than he has hitherto adopted, perhaps he will in time justify the choice of his constituents, with whom he has recently been foregathering. With him was Mr. Mundella, who is of Nottingham, socially, but of Sheffield Parliamentarily. He is a curious instance of a newborn member attaining to full growth in a short time after his Parliamentary birth. It is not everyone that would venture to second the address in a new Parliament after a general election at which he was for the first time returned; but Mr. Mundella did this, and with a certain skill, as he exhibited a modesty which did not impair his efficiency, and of which he has never shown a symptom since. He has reached to a place in the House which may be understood when it is said that when he speaks members listen; and, moreover, whenever there are rumours of Ministerial changes involving new appointments, you invariably hear his name mentioned in connection with them, sometimes even for rather high places in the administration.

It was said at one time by cognoscent persons that the success of the Anti-Corn-Law League was accelerated in a considerable degree by the circumstance that the brother of an Earl was one of its devoted and prominent advocates. Possibly some of the younger scions of the Peerage, who have studied the history of politics since the first Reform Bill, have discovered that the profession of and acting up to very Liberal opinions is a tolerably sure mode of rapidly reaching distinction. Something of this has above been alluded to in the case of Mr. Auberon Herbert; and an appearance of Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice before the electors of Calne suggests another instance of the system. It is true that the Fitzmaurices, who until of late were called Pettys, and of whom the Marquis of Lansdowne of the last generation was the Nestor, were always Whigs; but the present generation have become something more, for the existing Marquis is a member of the Gladstone Government, while his brother, Lord Edmond, though he condescends to sit for the still family borough of Calne, is thorough in his Radicalism. Almost fresh from the Union at Cambridge, of which he was president not so long ago, he began to imp his wings in the House in his first Session, and with success, on which he improved last year. He speaks well—fluently, epigrammatically, and with a complete *abandon* of opinion; his defect being a want of power in his voice. His most recent profession of political faith is wide and broad indeed. We know what he thought of the Irish Church and of University Tests from his Parliamentary speech and action in those matters; and now he tells us that he means to aid in disestablishing the Church of England, to say nothing of his espousal of the ballot and everything else that is extreme Liberal. Something which he said was probably actuated by a feeling which has been aroused in the Liberal party by the sort of shuffle-and-cut of offices in the late Ministerial reconstruction. Possibly Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice believes, and justly, that he has a career before him; and if so he would do well to avoid its being checked by a too early subsidence into lordships of the Treasury or under-secretaryships, which are always laid as silences-traps for aspiring young members who have a way of making telling speeches without much regard to the delicate sensibilities of Governments of which they are, in the main, supporters.

It would be inexact, if it were said that there was any positive paucity of rising young members in the new Parliament on the Conservative side. There are, in truth, a good many on that side who have shown eagerness to emerge from dreary back-benchism, and there are instances which might be on due occasion noted. At present one has to do with Mr. Christopher Beckett-Denison, who was returned for the eastern division of the West Riding in 1868, and who has displayed a certain sturdiness, breadth, and boldness of young membership. He is essentially vigorous, physically, and apparently by temperament; for, though he has passed through a course of action in the Indian Civil Service—which generally takes robustness out of a man—he does not show the slightest symptom of bodily failure, while there is an asserting dogmatism about him when he is speaking which indicates a certain force of idiosyncrasy. He did very well when he spoke on more general subjects; but when he came to discuss Indian affairs he delivered himself as one having authority, and that in a vein so critical of existing systems in our eastern empire as to be surprising in one who professes Conservatism in politics. It is a distinction to be member for the constituency he represents, and he appears resolved to prove himself deserving of it in so far as he possibly can.

It is almost superfluous to descant on the position which Mr. Winterbotham has taken in the House, the fact is so patent; and it is only necessary to refer to a recent speech of his delivered at Stroud to say that it is characteristic of him and his political and Parliamentary way. Those who remember the fiery speech of Mr. Watkin Williams last Session, when he brought forward a motion for the disestablishment of the Welsh Church, must also remember the nearly comic effect which he produced towards its close. He appeared to be almost frightened at "the noise himself had made," earnestly declared that he had been only firing with blank cartridge, and humbly solicited to be allowed to withdraw his motion. One learns from an address uttered a day or two ago to his constituents that he does not mean to renew his motion, but suffer it to merge in a broader one for the disestablishment of the Church of England, which is threatened.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Having completely exhausted racing statistics last week, we should have been quite at a loss for a subject had not the entries for the spring handicaps appeared. These, however, afford ample food for contemplation; and in a few days more we may hope that the frost will have entirely vanished, and coursing and other sports will be recommenced. We are indebted to the *Sportsman* for the following table of entries, which extends over eight years:—

	1864.	18	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
Lincoln Handicap ..	74	113	80	84	79	89	68	142
City and Suburban ..	148	170	128	113	141	107	140	165
Great Metropolitan ..	82	94	75	82	94	47	85	74
Gt. Northamptonshire	97	97	80	84	96	80	81	51
Newmarket Handicap	64	67	46	59	69	60	69	81
Chester Cup ..	151	164	156	150	140	126	123	124
Grand National ..	86	103	92	106	107	109	88	112

It will be seen that the list for this year is most encouraging, and affords every prospect of a busy and successful season. In almost every case there is a marked advance on the number of nominations obtained in 1870, and in one or two cases the increase is quite extraordinary. Thus, the entries for the Lincoln Handicap have actually risen from 68 to 142. The secret of this wonderful improvement is that the promoters, feeling that their meeting would be almost ruined by clashing with that held at Liverpool, have made a great effort, and added £500 to their principal race, instead of the conventional £100. This well-timed liberality has met with a fitting reward, for almost every speedy "miler" in training is entered. Perhaps the most notable are Cymbal (whom it will be difficult to handicap out of it), Frivolity, Gamos, Idus, Lady of Lyons, Macgregor (from which it would appear that hopes are entertained that the Two Thousand hero will stand another preparation), Martyrdom (another "cripple"), Normanby, Pâté, The Pearl, Sabinus, See-Saw, Tibthorpe, Typhoeus, and Vespasian. Among other less illustrious names we find that of Perry Down, who, since he ran third in the Guineas, has been entered for nearly every great handicap, but has never performed with any credit to himself; of the handsome little De Vere, who had speed enough to canter away from the flying Léonie three seasons ago; of Miss Dayrell, and of the ever-green Salliet. Many of the same horses serve to make up the 165 entries in the City and Suburban; but the extra quarter of a mile is apparently considered too far for Cymbal; and Macgregor, The Pearl, Tibthorpe, Typhoeus, and Vespasian are missing from the list. Their places, however, are well filled by old Paganini—the probable top-weight of the handicap—Border Knight, Cardinal York, Hawthornden, Palmerston, and Sornette. It is possible, too, that Bridgwater will make his long-deferred début in this race; and the "foreigners" will put in a strong bid for it, as, besides Sornette, they have Dutch Skater, Somno, Gantalet, and two or three others of less note engaged.

Long-distance races seem to be declining in popular favour, for we find that the Great Metropolitan shows a decrease of eleven, as compared with last year; while there are only fifty-one entries for the Northamptonshire Stakes, or thirty less than in 1870. Paganini will probably head the list in both races, for we should fancy that neither Restitution nor Midsummer are sound enough to be dangerous. Fusee is hardly likely to run again, and Cardinal York, Dutch Skater, Kennington, Pâté, and Sabinus are the best animals engaged in the Metropolitan, though Whaddon is just the style of colt to repeat Blueskin's victory for Mr. Saville. Cardinal York and Whaddon are also engaged in the Northamptonshire Stakes, for which Starter and Sarsfield are nominated. Perhaps the fact that the Newmarket Stakes generally falls to an outsider has caused owners to regard it with more favourable eyes, for the entries are twelve in excess of those of last year; while the class of horses is much superior to that which generally contests it, in proof of which we need only mention that the names of Anton, Cardinal York, Hawthornden, Idus, Kennington, Paganini, Pâté, Restitution, See-Saw, Somno, and Sornette all appear in the list. Miss Sheppard, last year's winner, has also a chance of repeating her victory; and as The Drummer is entered, it is possible that he has not finally retired into private life. Ever since 1865 the entries for the Chester Cup have been slowly but surely decreasing; so it is satisfactory that this year they number one more than in 1870. We may expect another visit from the dangerous Prussians, as Adonis and Flibustier are both in the list. As Anton, unfortunately, has no valuable three-year-old engagements, and has shown himself possessed of such fine stamina, it is not surprising that he is entered; but we do not expect to find the name of Bicycle, as, from her antecedents, a mile course would probably be more to her liking. Camel may have a chance of making some amends for his miserable exhibition at Epsom, and showing some of his Doncaster form; while, besides the everlasting Cardinal York, who is engaged in everything, Kennington, Lady of Lyons, Mortemer, Rosicrucian, Sabinus, and See-Saw are also nominated. Our Mary Ann has a chance of emulating Dalby's double victory; and old Redcap, one of the Marquis of Hastings's "red-hot" favourites for this same race, is again engaged.

Every steeplechaser in the kingdom seems determined to have a try for the Grand National, which shows a grand total of 112 against the 88 of last season. Three former winners—The Lamb, The Colonel, and Cortolvin—once more enter the lists; and apparently we have not seen the last of those ancient rivals, Alcibiade and Hall Court. Capitaliste is also among the Great Metropolitan entries, so it seems doubtful if he will not have another chance or two on the flat before descending to the jumping business; and the same remark may possibly apply to Cecil and Court Mantle. We may feel pretty sure, however, that those old stagers, The Doctor, Primrose, Sunney, Pearl Diver, Souvenance, Scarrington, and Brick will face the starter; while we shall probably be indulged in the annual spectacle of Fan resolutely declining the first fence. Ascot prospects look very bright, as the Cup and Alexandra Plate have each obtained 30 entries; and, on paper, there is a promise of most exciting contests for both.

Messrs. Winterbotham and Dickenson, the members for Stroud, addressed their constituents on Thursday week. A vote of confidence in both members was unanimously passed.

The *Civilian* states that the Government has made up its mind to relinquish the vast patronage of the Customs and Inland Revenue—two of the largest departments under the Crown. At first the appointments of second-class assistants of Excise and outdoor offices of Customs were included in the operation of the scheme of open competition, from which, however, they were withdrawn in October last. They have now been restored to Schedule A of the Order in Council. This last act of the Treasury will throw some eight or nine thousand appointments open to the public. The regulations of the new system of open competitive examinations in the Inland Revenue department have been published in the *London Gazette*.

THE FARM.

The following extract from the most recent report of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society clearly shows the rapid growth of the society since it came into existence, in 1838:—"At the first anniversary meeting of the English Agricultural Society, held thirty-one years ago, it was stated that the prizes offered for stock, to be shown at the then approaching Oxford meeting, would amount altogether to £740; besides £50 for extra stock, implements, roots, and seeds; £50 for a draining-plough; and two prizes of £50 each for the best specimens of white and of red seed wheat. At the forthcoming Oxford meeting (1870), the prizes to be competed for amount to £3130 for live stock, and £395, in addition to ten silver medals, for implements. A contrast of these figures will enable the members to realise the growth of the society, and to estimate the nature and extent of their influence on the progress of British agriculture."

Among the most recent shorthorn events we have to chronicle the purchase of Grand Duchess 20th by Mr. W. W. Slye, of Beaumont Grange, for 1000 gs. This cow is a daughter of Grand Duchess 8th and 4th Duke of Thorndale, and was sold in 1867 at the Preston Hall sale for 430 gs. Since then she has been in Earl Spencer's, and latterly in Mr. J. N. Bensley's, hands, from whom she was purchased by Mr. Slye. Large as is the sum given, there is every hope that, if she continues in a healthy condition, the transaction will prove profitable. Signs of spring activity are already appearing in the form of advertisements and notices of sales. M. Cheney, of Gaddesby, is to sell about eighty head of Wild Eyes, Blanches, Princesses, Cherry Duchesses, &c., on April 5. A selection from M. Jefferson's stock, and probably the entire herd of Mr. D. Neasham, of Gainford-on-Tees, will be disposed of by Mr. Thornton, and we have already noticed Colonel Kingscote's and Mr. Jonathan Peel's determination to sell some or all of their famously-bred animals. So far all looks bright, and we fail to see any decline in the spirited demand for bovine beauty and fashion which characterised the last season. It is also gratifying to find that all the high prices are not drawn from American or Australian speculators, but that our own breeders have, with one or two exceptions, led the way in all the great sales of the past twelve months.

The death of Lord Walsingham will be looked upon with extreme regret by agriculturists. As a vice-president and active member of the Royal Agricultural Society, as well as a leader in all agricultural improvement, Lord Walsingham stood prominently forward before the farming community; while as a breeder of Southdown sheep he was unrivalled. Year by year the contest was renewed between the Duke of Richmond, the late Lord, and Mr. Rigden, with variable success; but no one could look upon the perfect specimens of sheep from the Merton flock without a feeling of admiration for the care which had evidently been expended both upon their breeding and management.

Almost all outdoor work has been at a standstill for the last three weeks. Labourers have been employed in threshing, carting out dung, and anything else which the severity of the weather would allow of. With the breaking of the long-continued frost, attention will be directed to ploughing for barley and other kinds of spring corn. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of early ploughing for barley; and the earlier the crop is sown the better, provided it escapes severe frosts. When the work of ploughing up the sheepfold is delayed, too often a droughty spring renders a finely-tilled surface impossible; the land works into small, unproportioned clods, alike unsuitable for young barley or the grass seeds which are usually subsequently sown. By early ploughing, on the other hand, a fine and moist surface is secured; the manure is safely buried, instead of being washed away by rain and melting snow; and, lastly, an opportunity is given for charlock and other annual weeds to spring and to be destroyed in the drilling and harrowing of the barley.

A new era in the experience of the hen-wife has just dawned. We have all heard of "cramming" as a means of fattening fowls, *nilly-willy*, but a machine for doing the same is certainly a novelty. Such is, however, a veritable fact, exhibited in the Crystal Palace by Messrs. Crook, of Carnaby-street. "This instrument is on the principle of the machine long used for filling skins with sausage-meat, and consists of a hollow cylinder, into which the prepared food is placed, terminated at the other extremity by a smooth, flexible pipe of indiarubber cloth. The open end receives a piston by which the food is forced out at the end of the flexible tube, and from thence, by proper management, into the crop of the fowl." By this invention food may be administered to 250 chickens per hour. Alas! for the dyspeptic.

The difficulties of the Herefordshire farmers with regard to keep will have been felt in many other counties. "We have never," writes a correspondent to an agricultural contemporary, "we have never heard so much inquiry for keep. Hay, £7 to £8 per ton; straw, £4 to £5 per ton. Many farmers without a swede; some with a few swedes and no turnips. Of mangolds there were not many planted, but where they were they proved the best of the root crops. For our part, we have used the whole of the pulp or must from cider-making instead of turnips, with straw chaff, for the store cattle with considerable advantage. As soon as this supply ceases we propose resorting to boiled linseed applied hot to straw chaff, and a little meal or miller's refuse, with a small quantity of salt."

The Hants and Berks Agricultural Society have agreed to hold their annual show in June next at Portsmouth. Although local in title it is universal in operation, the show-yard being open for competition to all parts of the United Kingdom.

Preston horse fair was held last week. Business was brisk, and good prices were realised.

A correspondent of the *English Mechanic* points out the difference between the roots of the horseradish and aconite, ignorance of which has led to serious accidents. The root of aconite is like that of the parsnip, being broad at its upper part, and gradually tapering to a point, and from its sides throwing off numerous thin fibres. The root is of a brown colour, the odour earthy, and the taste at first bitter, afterwards producing an unpleasant tingling and numbness on the palate. The root of horseradish is slightly conical at the crown, then cylindrical, and also of a uniform thickness to its lower extremity, where it often divides into two or more branches. It gives off from its sides a number of irregular branches of variable sizes. The colour is white, with a tinge of yellow. Its odour, developed by bruising or scraping, is very pungent and irritating, and its taste acrid and bitter, or sweet, according to the season at which it is collected and the soil in which it has grown. From the above description it is obvious that a very little care will prevent the aconite being taken for the horseradish, as their distinctive characters, as regards shape, colour, odour, and taste, are so well marked. In the museums at Kew and South Kensington (Food Department) these roots are placed together for the purpose of comparison, and a slight inspection will at once show how widely they differ from each other.



DEFENCE OF PARIS: THE BARRIÈRE DU TRÔNE (SKETCH BY BALLOON POST)

MUSIC.

The first week's performances of the Italian Opera Buffa Company at the Lyceum Theatre consisted of two repetitions of "L'Italiana in Algeri"—as given on the opening night, and already noticed—"L'Elisir d'Amore" on Tuesday and Thursday, and "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" on Saturday. On the latter occasion Mdle. Bedetti met with a favourable reception as Rosina, particularly in the lesson-scene, in which she introduced the cavatina "Non piu mesta," from "Cenerentola." Signor Torelli was an active and lively Figaro, and Signor Borella gave much comic humour to the part of Bartolo. In "L'Elisir d'Amore," Mdle. Calisto, as Adina, was applauded in several instances, especially in the well-known duet with Dulcamara, although apparently somewhat under the influence of indisposition, which prevented her from repeating the part on Thursday, when her place was supplied by Mdle. Colombo, who was well received. Other characters in both the operas last named were filled by singers already mentioned, with the exception of that of Dr. Dulcamara in "L'Elisir," in which Signor Ristori appeared for the first time with greater effect than might have been expected under the disadvantageous influence of severe weather, that has more or less affected the efforts of most vocalists, especially natives of a milder climate than ours. This week's performances have included the operas already specified, alternated on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday; the theatre having been closed on Wednesday and Friday nights for rehearsals of Signor Bottesini's new opera, "Ali Baba," which is announced for production to-night (Saturday).

This week's resumption of the Monday Popular Concerts—after the Christmas recess—included two reappearances of special interest—that of the excellent pianist formerly known here as Mdle. Wilhelmina Clauss, and of three eminent violinists Signor Sivori. Some years have elapsed since the admirable performances in this country of Mdle. Clauss, and in the interval the lady has become Madame Szarvady. The brilliant playing of Signor Sivori is much more fresh in recollection, as only a few seasons have passed since his appearance here. Monday night's concert commenced with the pianoforte quintet by Robert Schumann, a work belonging to his middle period, and thoroughly representative of his genius and characteristics. Schumann's music has encountered the opposition usually offered to boldly independent original thought. It is always at first only a minority that accepts what largely departs from precedent, and accordingly Schumann was long appreciated but by a very narrow circle—one, however, that has gradually and surely widened until his name has become familiar to a large public by frequent appearance in concert programmes. Few unprejudiced hearers can fail to recognise the power and grandeur, the nobility and beauty that pervade Schumann's best works, among which must always be reckoned the quintet now referred to. The vigour and energy, fiery impulse, and sustained mastery of the first movement, the scherzo, and the finale, and the pathos and religious feeling of the slow movement were thoroughly appreciated on Monday, when the difficult pianoforte part was splendidly played by Madame Szarvady, who, in this and in Beethoven's solo "Moonlight" sonata, proved her admirable powers of execution and expression. Her tone, touch, phrasing, and general style are all excellent, and her performances were greeted with enthusiastic applause. So likewise was Signor Sivori's refined reading of Beethoven's romance in F, which was encored by acclamation. This gentleman led the stringed instrument accompaniments to the quintet and Mozart's quartet in G, in association with MM. L. Ries, Straus, and Piatti. Herr Stockhausen was the vocalist, and Mr. Benedict the conductor.

Mr. John Boosey's "London Ballad Concerts" recommenced at St. James's Hall, last week, for the fifth season. The programme contained the usual variety of songs and ballads, new and old, of patriotic and domestic interest. The principal singers were Misses Edith Wynne and Arabella Smythe, Mdle. Drasdil, Madame Patey, Mr. Cummings, and Mr. Santley. Madame Goddard played a pianoforte fantasia by Thalberg, and one by Benedict, with brilliant execution, and was encored in each. Part-songs were interspersed in the selection, under the direction of Mr. Fielding, as usual; and Mr. Hatton conducted, as before. The success of the first concert augured well for that of the remaining five.

A composer of much popularity in his day, although lately almost ignored, has just passed away—Saverio Mercadante, of whose numerous operas not one has retained its hold upon the public. As with many other Italian maestri, facile rapidity has resulted in a quantity of productions disclosing powers that would have been capable of more enduring performances with more earnest and deliberate purpose. His best-known operas here were "Il Giuramento" and "Il Bravo," many passages in the first of which are sufficient to prove the remarks just made. According to M. Fétis, Mercadante was born in 1798; according to M. Clement, in 1797.

THE THEATRES.

Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, the reports received as to the success of the pantomimes are encouraging. Little novelty, of course, has appeared anywhere. "Fernande" will be brought to a close to-night at the St. James's. Professor Hermann commenced, on Monday, a new series of entertainments at the Egyptian Hall. His skill as a prestidigitateur is undoubted, and he performs his marvels without any apparatus whatever. His illusions, too, are accompanied with a grace of manipulation which adds to their charm and effect.

The cold weather has had its victims: among them, Mrs. Edward Thomas, the author of "The Wife's Tragedy," produced at the Standard on Saturday, Dec. 10. Just four weeks afterwards, last Saturday evening, this amiable lady expired, having been taken ill, on the 26th ult., with an attack of bronchitis. She was in her sixty-eighth year. Mrs. Thomas, who was the widow of a clergyman, was the author of several poems and other works.

A meeting of the Representative Body of the disestablished Church of Ireland was held yesterday week—the Archbishop of Dublin presiding. The report of the finance committee showed that up to Dec. 8 there had been lodged in the Irish and English banks, to the credit of the Sustentation Fund, the sum of £203,295, and that of this amount there had been drawn out, for investments and current expenses, the sum of £45,478.—The Body resolved to undertake the repairing of dilapidated glebe houses which a commuting incumbent is unable to repair, charging him 7 per cent for twenty-one years on the outlay, and also, with certain exceptions, to purchase all the ecclesiastical residences in Ireland, with the land attached, for the benefit of the Church; £4000 was remitted from the diocese of Cork, and £1700 from that of Ardfer, as contributions to the General Restoration Fund. The Body have adopted an official seal, being an open Bible, a mitre, wreath of shamrocks, and the motto, "Church of Ireland."

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

Melodies for the Pianoforte. By T. M. Mudie. (Cramer and Co.) We have here a series of twelve charming little pieces by a gentleman well known and esteemed in musical circles, although his name may not be so familiar to the general public. As a contemporary student at the Royal Academy of Music with Professor Sterndale Bennett (now its Principal), Mr. Mudie distinguished himself as a pianist, and by his compositions for his instrument as well as for the orchestra. By various vocal pieces and instrumental works he has from time to time, but too rarely, proved his high attainments and cultivated taste. Mendelssohn's "Lieder ohne Worte" seem to have been Mr. Mudie's models as to form, but without plagiarism. The pieces now referred to are of various degrees of difficulty, none very formidable even to juvenile pianists, and some simple enough for very young practitioners. While well calculated to serve as studies, both for mechanism and style, these melodies will interest as well as improve the youthful student.

Three Short Pieces for the Organ. By E. J. Hopkins. (Metzler and Co.) These are recent contributions to the stores of organ music that should be welcome to all performers on the instrument, especially to those engaged in its use at public worship, for which they are intended as introductory voluntaries. Mr. Hopkins is well known as one of the most skilful and accomplished of English organists, and is attached to the Temple Church. An earnest student and an excellent performer of the greatest of all works for the organ—those of Sebastian Bach—Mr. Hopkins's productions for it are all distinguished by that seriousness of style which should more or less pervade the music of that king of instruments. These three preludes are worthy sequels to previous pieces by the same hand, and will be equally valuable as studies and for use in church service. The same publishers have also issued two Te Deums and a Benedictus, with chant music, by the same composer, who has written much service music for use at the Temple Church.

Messrs. Metzler have likewise published Mr. John Hullah's song, "The Message from the Battle-field," which has been so successfully sung at various concerts of late. The *Musical Bijou*, issued by the same firm, still continues its periodical supply of pianoforte and vocal music. The twenty-fifth number of this collection contains twelve English patriotic songs, with pianoforte accompaniment, neatly printed, for 6d. Cheapness can scarcely be carried further than this.

Other recent publications of Messrs. Metzler are a collection of the war-songs of France and Germany, with English words by Mr. H. B. Farnie.

Among various publications from the house of Czerny, in Regent-street, are some effective transcriptions for the pianoforte by D. Brocca, including movements from the violoncello sonatas of Sebastian Bach and a hornpipe and "Romanza alla Pastorale" from the instrumental works of Handel—pieces full of character and charm, which are thus brought within the reach of ordinary pianoforte-players.

That the cultivation of organ-playing is on the increase in this country is proved by the various publications for the supply of music for the instrument, original and arranged. Among other serials of the kind is the *Organists' Quarterly Journal*, published by Messrs. Novello, Ewer, and Co., and edited by Dr. Sparks, of Leeds, which has now reached its ninth number. This work consists entirely of pieces specially composed for it—the most recent issues containing movements in various styles and forms, by some of the best English and foreign organists of the day.

Henry Leslie's Musical Annual for 1871. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.) This gift-book for the new year contains a varied selection of vocal and instrumental pieces, nine in number—including three by the editor, and others by well-known composers. A steel frontispiece, well engraved by C. H. Jeens, from a drawing by J. E. Millais, "A Reverie," gives a favourable augury of what is to follow.

Melodia Divina. (F. Pitman.) This goodly-sized volume is a third edition (with an appendix) of an extensive collection of popular psalm and hymn tunes, including many original compositions and adaptations from Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, &c.; together with single and double chants, anthems, and short pieces. These have been edited and adapted to appropriate words by Mr. Joseph Hart, and arranged for voice and pianoforte, or harmonium accompaniment, by Mr. John Fawcett, who seem to have bestowed much care on their office. The volume will doubtless be welcome to many by whom this form of sacred music is cultivated.

At the annual meeting of the trustees and managers of the Edinburgh National Savings' Bank, held yesterday week—the Lord Provost presiding—it was intimated that the deposits in the bank of the industrial classes of the county and city of Edinburgh amounted to £756,551, being an increase on the year of £53,008. The total transactions of the bank amounted to the sum of £1,011,231.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has ordered the following alterations to be made in the names of streets, &c., within the limits of the metropolis:—Alma-road, Kensington, to be called Fenelaw-road; Henry-street, Chelsea, to be re-named Leverett-street; John-street, Marlborough-road, Chelsea, to be called Norman-street; James-street, Chelsea, to be known by the name of Denyer-street; Upper Portland-place to be incorporated with Portland-place, and the houses in the whole line of thoroughfare re-numbered; Bond-street, Chelsea, to be re-named Cale-street. The name Hayne-street to be applied to the line of thoroughfare now known as Charterhouse-street, leading from Long-lane to Charterhouse-square; Grove-road, Battersea, to be called Este-street; the name Alford-terrace to be applied to seventeen new houses erected in Union-grove, Clapham; James-street, St. Peter's-street, Islington, to be called Frome Street; John-street, Mile-end, to be incorporated with Skidmore-street; Bridge-road, Battersea, to be re-named Battersea Bridge-road; Edward-street and Nelson-street, Mile-end, to be incorporated with Duckett-street under the latter name; East-street, Mile-end, to be incorporated with Bancroft-road; Upper Hartland-road, St. Pancras, to be incorporated with Hartland-road; the line of thoroughfare known as Queen-street, Grosvenor-row, Pimlico, and Queen's-road, East Chelsea, to be incorporated under the name Chelsea-road. The houses in Old-street-road to be re-numbered in continuation of the numbers in Old-street, the subsidiary names abolished, and the whole line of thoroughfare called Old-street. The houses in the above localities to be re-numbered, and the subsidiary names abolished; and also the houses in that portion of the Wandsworth-road between Kennington-cross and Cedars-road, Clapham, in that portion of the Brixton-road between Camberwell New-road and Acre-lane, Brixton; Chapter-road, Newington; Southwark-street, between Borough High-street and the railway on the south side, to Southwark Bridge-road on the north side; Wells-street, Hackney; Sleaford-street, Battersea; and Park-village East; Turner's-road, Limehouse.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

HEAT OF BURNING—UNBURNING.

Professor Odling began his fifth lecture, on Thursday week, by experiments which proved that the temperature or intensity of heat of any body differs from the quantity of heat which it contains or can impart. Half a gallon of boiling water melted four times as much ice as a pint of boiling water; and an ounce weight of red-hot iron plunged in a pint of cold water made the water less hot than did a pound of iron heated merely to the temperature of boiling water. To measure temperature the thermometer is employed. In Fahrenheit's scale 212 is the boiling point and 32 the freezing. In the centigrade, usually employed in science, the freezing-point is 0, the boiling-point 100. To measure heat the calorimeter is employed; and a degree or unit of heat is the quantity required to raise a litre (about a pint and a half) of water 1 deg. centigrade, or nearly 2 deg. Fahrenheit. The Professor then gave experiments demonstrating the conclusion, in accordance with common experience, that the quantity of heat evolved by the burning of a definite weight of combustible, such as coal, is limited and nearly uniform; and also showing that although the temperature resulting from a chemical reaction may vary to an unlimited extent, yet the heat evolved by the reaction is invariable. The reactions taking place at low temperatures often differ from those at high temperatures. Thus alcohol reacts on oxygen at a comparatively low temperature to produce acetic acid; at a high temperature to produce carbonic gas and water; but where, as in the combination of oxygen with hydrogen, the reaction at high and low temperatures is the same, the quantity of heat may be shown to be the same, notwithstanding the differences of temperature exhibited. The Professor next proceeded to explain and illustrate the phenomena of "unburning." He first burnt some hydrogen gas in chlorine gas, forming chloride of hydrogen or muriatic acid gas; he next burnt some metallic sodium in chlorine, producing chloride of sodium or common salt; he then burnt some sodium in muriatic acid gas, which also produced chloride of sodium and set free hydrogen. The sodium, whether burnt in chlorine or in muriatic acid, was changed into the same burnt product, chloride of sodium; it was burnt out, and had lost its power of burning; but in the latter case the hydrogen, from having been burnt out, had become unburnt, and was thus rendered capable of being burnt again. This burning and unburning of the hydrogen, the Professor compared to letting a weight fall to the ground and rise again by means of a cord and pulley.

UNBURNING.

Professor Odling, in his concluding lecture, given on Saturday last, resumed his illustrations of unburning. He began by burning some charcoal and producing carbonic gas, which he showed to be a constituent of chalk and marble, by evolving it from them by muriatic acid; and then, by means of the blowpipe, he burnt some metallic sodium in carbonic gas, the result being that the combustible sodium was burnt into incombustible caustic soda; while the carbon of the incombustible carbonic gas remained behind as unburnt black combustible charcoal. In like manner he showed how the metals arsenic and zinc could be burnt and unburnt. He then explained and illustrated the relation of these burnings and unburnings to the manifestation of heat. When 65 grammes of zinc are burnt in oxygen or air, and the resulting oxide of zinc is dissolved in aqueous sulphuric acid, 104 units of heat are evolved; but when 65 grammes of the zinc itself are dissolved in aqueous sulphuric acid, only 36 units of heat appear; 68 units are retained by the two grammes of hydrogen gas unburnt from the acid solution, and when these two grammes are burnt the missing 68 units of heat are evolved. In whichever way the zinc is burnt, he said, the heat evolved amounts to the same number of units. He then explained the principle of the voltaic battery, as consisting of a series of properly-connected pairs of plates of zinc and platinum, immersed in a series of cells or jars of acid; and he showed, by means of a battery of forty cells, how so much of the heat-evolving power of the oxidising zinc as was not manifested in the cells could be exhibited in the ignition and fusion of a platinum wire, and in the production of the electric light by the fusion of carbon points. Among other striking illustrations, the Professor subjected some steam produced by boiling water to the intense heat of the electric spark, whereby a portion of the water was unburnt (or decomposed) into its constituent gases. In conclusion, he referred to the process of vegetation. Under exposure to the sun's rays, he said, the wood of a growing tree is formed by the unburning of carbonic gas and water into oxygen gas discharged into the atmosphere, and carbon and hydrogen transformed into woody tissue; this act being necessarily attended by the disappearance of solar heat: and when we burn this woody tissue in the oxygen of the air into carbonic gas and water, the heat evolved is the equivalent of the solar heat absorbed during vegetation. The genial heat produced by burning a log of wood on a Christmas fire is merely the restoration of the sun's heat that disappeared when the tree was grown.

Professor Michael Foster, on Tuesday next, the 17th inst., will commence a course of eleven lectures on the Nutrition of Animals; Professor Odling, on Thursday next, will commence a course of eleven lectures on Davy's Discoveries in Chemistry; and the Rev. W. H. Channing, on Saturday next, will commence a course of four lectures on the Laws of Human Life as revealed in History. The opening Friday evening discourse (on the 20th) will be given by Professor Tyndall, on the Colour of Water and on the Scattering of Light in Water and in Air.

Mr. W. G. Clark, M.A., Vice-Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, gave, yesterday week, his second lecture on "The Revival of Learning, and its Results" in the Queen-street Hall, to the members of the Philosophical Institution. The *Scotsman* states that in this second lecture Mr. Clark traced with the same ability and liveliness as on the previous Thursday the effects of the Renaissance on literature, art, and religious belief in Italy, France, and Germany, and in our own country.

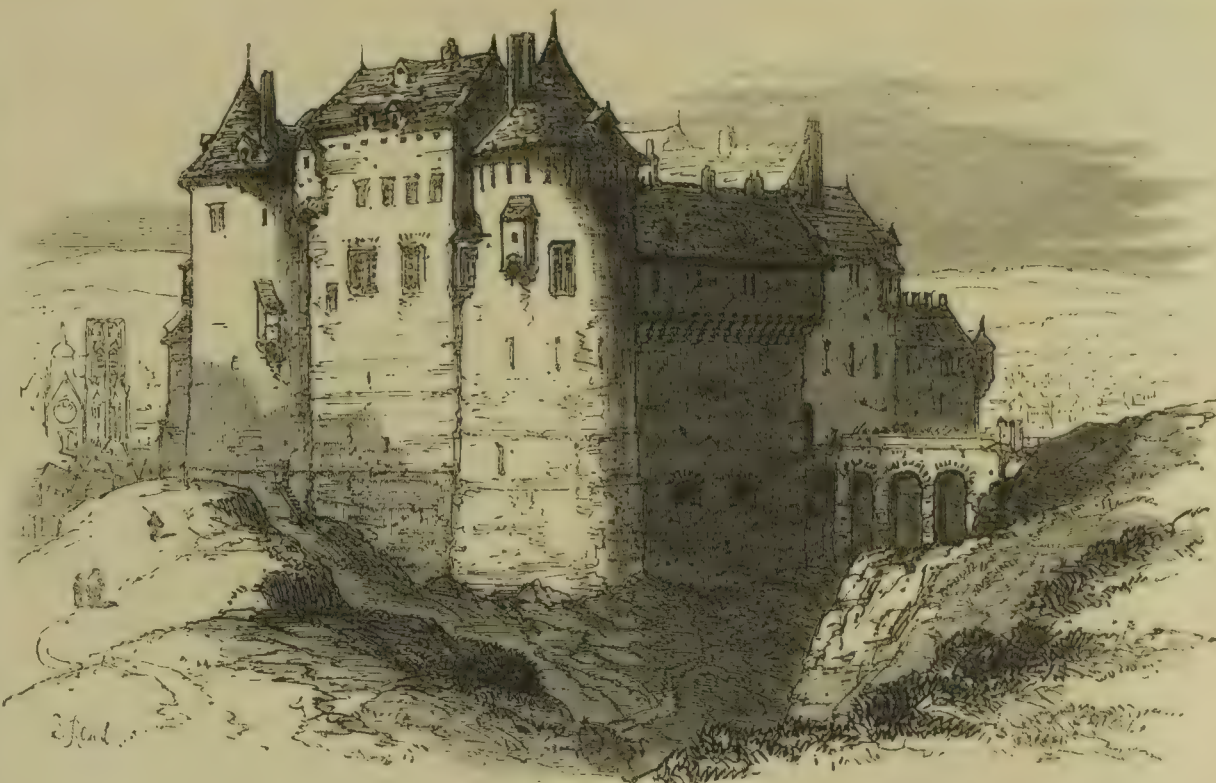
The annual meeting of the subscribers and friends of the Edinburgh United Industrial School was held yesterday week. Sir John Don Wauchope, Bart., presided upon the occasion, and there was an influential attendance. A favourable report was submitted by the acting committee, and was approved of by the meeting. The *Scotsman* states that, in opening the proceedings, the chairman spoke at some length in approval of the system of separate religious instruction carried on in the institution; and expressed the opinion that the same principle might be applied with advantage to a national scheme of education. He cordially recommended the school to the support of the public, from whom it deserved every encouragement. The meeting was also addressed by Lord Gifford, ex-Lord Provost Chambers, Bishop Strain, the Rev. Dr. Gray, the Rev. Mr. Sandford, and Mr. Charles Jenner, all of whom bore testimony to the usefulness and efficiency of the institution.

Leaves from a Sketch-Book.

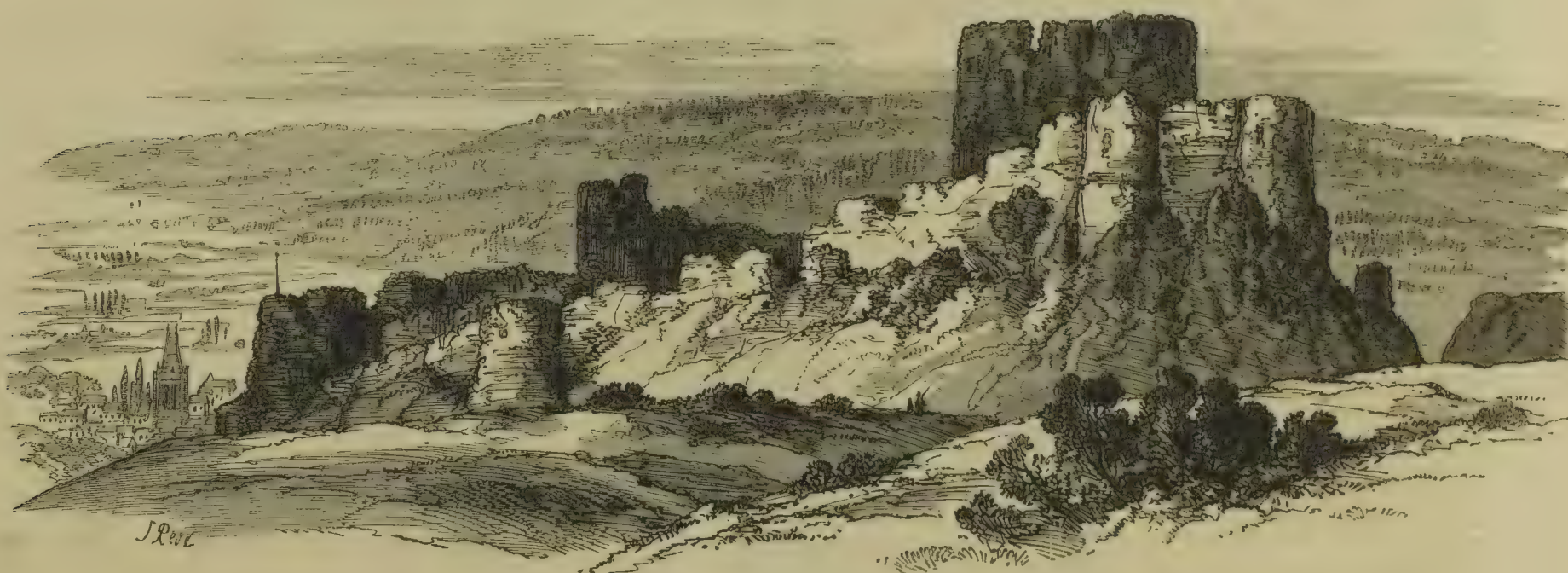
DIEPPE.

To those who can brave the qualms of a six or seven hours' passage across the Channel, there used to be—for, alas! we must speak of it in the past tense—no more agreeable route to Paris than that by way of Newhaven and Dieppe. It enabled one to pay a flying visit to the fine old Norman cities which are as familiar to the earlier history of England as the best-known names and places of our own land. Thus, within a few days and with small expense, one might almost run and read some of the most interesting memorials of one constituent at least of the amalgam that is called the English race. Rouen, Caen, and Fécamp, with Honfleur, Bayeux, and Falaise, have as familiar a sound about them as our own cities, and seem to be but varied threads that are interwoven with the tissue of our own history. Dieppe, from which, or from whose neighbourhood, the accompanying Views are taken, has not only been an English possession, but, according to the very interesting and learned author of "Words and Places," it bears a name which is identical with our English "Deeps." "The name of the river Dieppe," he writes, "which was afterwards—in the tenth century—given to the town which was built beside it, is identical with that of Diupa, or 'deep water,' in Iceland: and it may be compared with 'The Deeps' near Boston."

It is not positively known when Dieppe was first built or when it received its present name. The discovery of many Roman remains, of a date which goes as far back as the third century of our era, shows that its site had commended itself to that ubiquitous people. There is also evidence that a town existed here in the time of Charlemagne, who, desirous of protecting the Bay of Mont-de-Caux against the piratical Northmen, built a castle on the heights above, and surrounded the fishing village, which then went by the name of Bertheville, with a wall of fortification. But the word is first mentioned by Ordericus Vitalis, the Roman chronicler, who lived in the reigns of William and his three successors, and from this time the name of Dieppe, which was originally applied to the river or bay, became the received appellation of the pleasant town



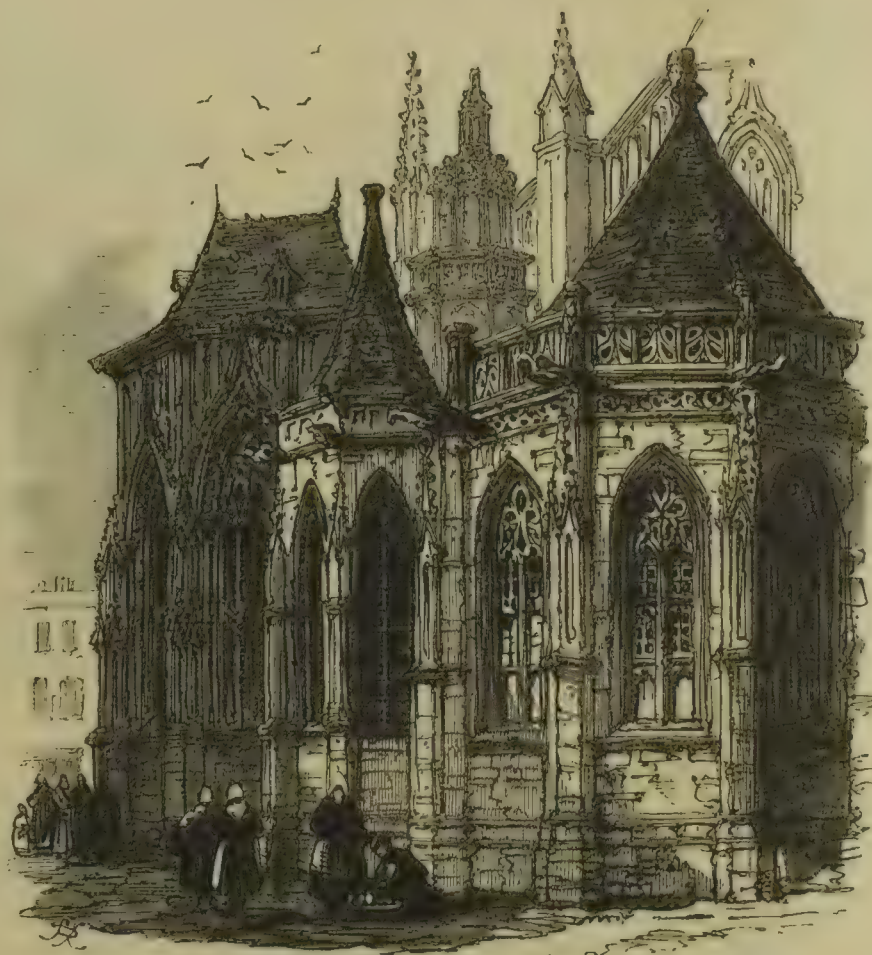
CHATEAU.



CHATEAU D'ARQUES, NEAR DIEPPE.



CHATEAU.



ST. JACQUES.

which lies in the valley of the Arques, at its débouché into the waters of the Channel.

Many are the vicissitudes that have chequered the existence of Dieppe from the time when William the Conqueror left it to take possession of his new domain to the present dark days of France, when another William the Conqueror, as was the case a few weeks ago, caused its Château and Plage to be occupied, and the devouring Uhlans paid their unwelcome visit, and inflicted the usual "requisition" on the town. For many a long day will the Norman peasant-girls, who come tripping daily, in all their fantastic costumes, to the tobacco factory on the Rue d'Agnado, talk of the *canaille de Prussien*, who demanded an untold number of cigars from the Maire, and were informed by that functionary that nothing but the raw material was to be found in the factory, and that it was impossible, therefore, to comply with the request. The excuse was *ben trovato*, and was accepted by the polite German commandant, who, expressing a genuine regret at the low ebb of this particular manufacture in a place where it is one of the staples of trade, and employs 1100 hands, is said to have expressed also a more doubtful regret that he was under the painful necessity of asking for 120,000f., within twenty-four hours, or, in default, the persons of the Maire and several of the municipal authorities, to be conveyed as a material guarantee to some distant fortress of the Fatherland.

Alas for the beautiful land of France, and for its gay and pleasant towns, once so thoughtless of any dark morrow, and as bright and light-hearted as its own sunny skies and sparkling vintages! The volcano of war has often burst here before; but for years its fury has seemed to have been exhausted, and Nature has looked as fair and verdant as Vesuvius might have done before it was rent by the pent-up forces that overwhelmed the holiday groups of unconscious Pompeii. Burnt by Philip Augustus, in his dispute with its Sovereign, Richard Cœur de Lion, and rebuilt and restored when it passed into the possession of France, Dieppe rose to a position of considerable wealth, and became the seat of a large trade with the East. It traded also with Guinea and Cape Verde, towards the middle of the fourteenth century, at which time its maritime importance was so great that it was able to supply Philippe de Valois with a large number of ships of war in his struggle with our Edward III. Fostered by successive monarchs, and especially by the enterprise of its great merchant Anglo, in the beginning of the sixteenth century, it afforded substantial aid to Henry of Navarre, when, in 1589, with 4000 men, he gained the celebrated battle of Arques, four miles from Dieppe, against 30,000 men of the League under the Duc de Mayenne—a feat of arms worthy of a Wellington, a Napier, or a Clive. Henry IV. ought to have been beaten, said Napoleon, as he looked down from the Château d'Arques (see Engraving) and took in at a glance the scene which that valley had witnessed some two centuries before his time; and no doubt he would have been, if the "big battalion" theory were always true, and the Providence he sneered at did not sometimes seem at least to side with the weakness whose only strength is right. This Château d'Arques is incomparably the most interesting object in the neighbourhood of Dieppe; and especially so to an Englishman, for it was built by an uncle of William the Conqueror, by whom it was subsequently occupied, and passed successively into the hands of Robert of Normandy, Henry I., Stephen, and Geoffrey Plantagenet, the father of our Henry II. But all its Royal occupants could not save it from the ravages of war and time; and, after having sheltered the august head and still more august wig of Louis XIV., it became at last a mere quarry, from which the inhabitants of the neighbouring village carted off the materials whenever they required them, until Republican France sold the remains for a small sum, leaving it to the Empire, in 1869, to purchase back the ruin and preserve it as a national monument. Not only is the castle itself, with all its historic associations, most interesting, but the view of the Forest of Arques and of the charming Norman valley, through which flow the mingled waters of the Béthune and the Arques, is most attractive and picturesque.

The Château of Dieppe, which crowns the cliff to the west of the town, cannot claim any very great antiquity in its present state, though its situation is such as to render it more than probable that some eagle of war or other, from the earliest times, must have lighted upon this as an eyrie for observation or depredation. From the cliff on which it is built, or from the terraces in its ascent, a fine view of Dieppe may be seen. Fronting the sea is a large and extensive tract called the Plage, part of which is laid out in walks and gardens, and is an agreeable variation from the general run of watering-places, where hardly a vestige of any verdure is to be seen.

Almost at the foot of the Château is the Etablissement des Bains—a not inelegant building, devoted to balls, concerts, billiards, and other amusements to vary the monotony and while away the evenings of a seaside watering-place. From the terrace in front may be seen, in the summer and autumn, costumes as varied as the Babel of tongues one hears from Russians, Greeks, Norwegians, Germans, Danes, Italians, English, and, of course, Americans—for when are they absent from the tourist or pleasure grounds of the old or new world? Every colour that the butterfly bears upon its wings, every tissue that the loom can produce, from Cashmere to Lyons; every tint of female hair, from raven's-wing in the one extreme through the golden medium to silvery white in the other; every form of masculine visage—with moustaches and imperial, and without, with black beards, white beards, no beards, and some, perchance, with blue beards—all are here when the season is at its height, and all the world is out on its airiest and brightest wings, as if there was no such thing as care in the world, and the only thing to do was to live on like that for ever.

Whatever failings the French may have—and, verily, they are being sharply reminded of them—it is hardly too much to say that, in spite of the frivolity with which they are charged, and other national offences, with which this present writing has nothing to do, they are of all nations the most amiable and the least afflicted with outward angularity, whatever a very analytical eye may profess to see under the surface. To one who does not use the scalpel too minutely and who takes things and people very much as they appear to be, which nine times out of ten is very much as things and people are, there is something almost touching in the way in which those huge men, the *gens des bains*, perform their task of conducting the bathing arrangements of Dieppe and other similar watering-places in France. With a tender gallantry mingled with imperturbable gravity they perform their office, carrying their light burdens down to the water's edge, dipping them with a gentleness that our Amazonian bathing-women could hardly equal, and generally behaving like amiable mastiffs in charge of little children! Nothing could be conducted with more thorough propriety, decorum, and even grace; and the institution of sea-bathing, carried out as it is under the direct control of the Government, and with the most scrupulous regard to comfort and propriety, is one among the many things from which, if our self-complacency would allow us, we might take example

from the intelligence and *savoir faire* of our neighbours over the sea.

Opposite to the entrance of the établissement is a gateway flanked by two round towers, and called La Porte du Port d'Ouest. They have a very picturesque appearance, and add much to the effect of the château on the neighbouring falaise, or cliff. They occupy the site of some portion of the old fortifications of the town, and though they are not of any great antiquity they are very Norman, and give a character to the long Rue d'Agnado, of which they are the most conspicuous object. In the same street, and facing the sea, are

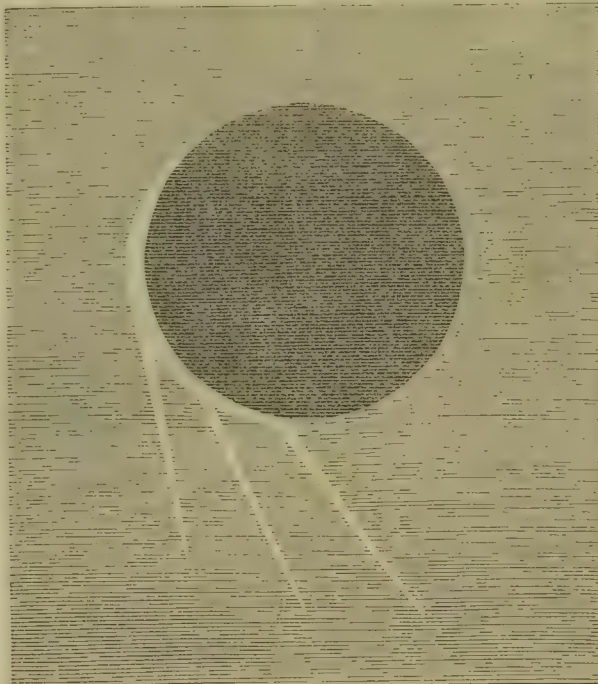


FIG. A.

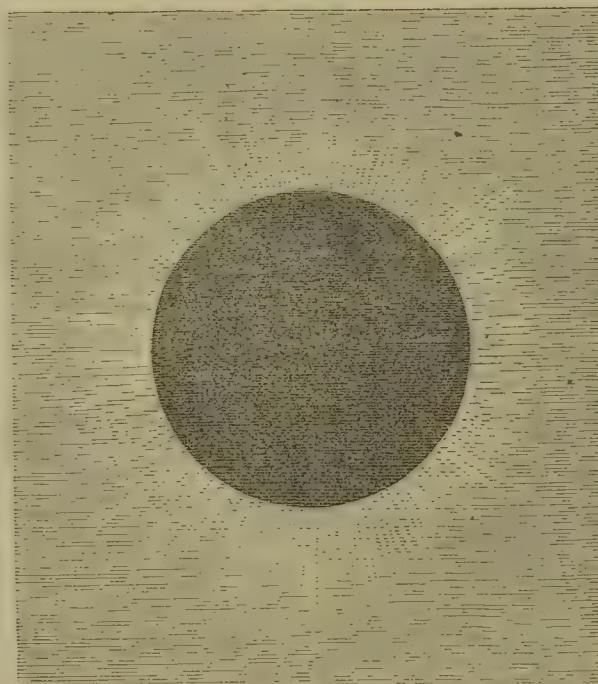


FIG. B.

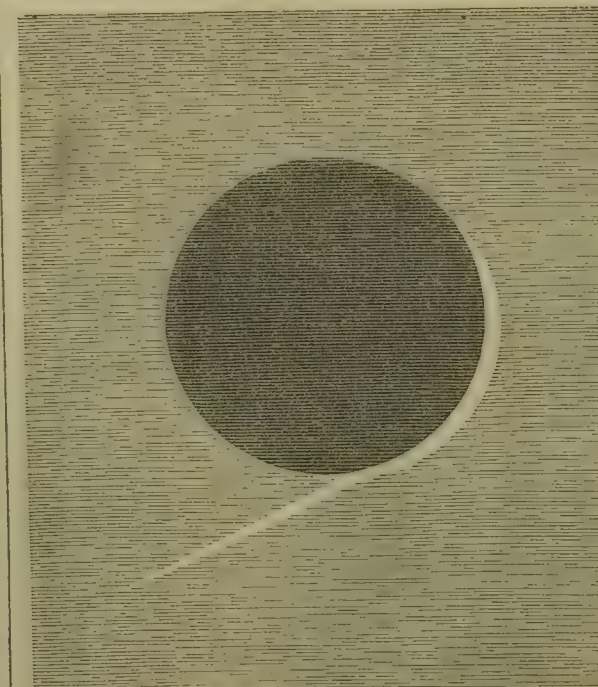


FIG. C.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

to be seen, in the midst of hotels and houses, some of them of considerable elegance, the two tall chimneys of the tobacco manufactory, which will henceforth have a factitious notoriety from the requisition which was made upon its resources by the Germans, when the inability or unwillingness of its managers to comply with the demand nearly led to the imprisonment of the Mayor and Town Council as prisoners of war.

Parallel with the Rue d'Agnado, and forming the chief seat of the trade at Dieppe, is the Grande Rue, abounding in handsome shops, among which are especially conspicuous the *ivireries* or establishments for the manufacture and sale of the most exquisite carvings in ivory—a branch

of trade which was introduced when its merchants first imported from the west coast of Africa the elephants' tusks and other productions of that region.

Battered about as the town has been by its various enemies, and notably by ourselves in 1694, when the combined Dutch and English fleets, unable to reduce Brest, gave vent to the chagrin of their commander in bombarding Dieppe, it is not to be expected that any very ancient buildings are still in existence. The Church of St. Jacques, however, the east end of which forms the subject of one of the accompanying Engravings, is an exception, and in the elaboration of its external detail is not unworthy of rank among the churches and cathedrals of Normandy. Its interior, some portion of which is as old as the thirteenth century, presents many features of interest to the architect and antiquary, but nothing of so striking a kind as may be found in the better-known Norman churches. Nothing, however, can be richer in material for the artist than the delicate carving to be found on the exterior of its apsidal chapels. The same skill which for generations has enabled the "bons Dieppois," as Henry IV. called them, to surpass all but the Chinese and Japanese in their ivory carvings, must have guided the chisels which wrought this exquisite tracery in stone.

Dieppe is divided into its west and east ends, which latter, by some occult law of city gravitation, is, as usual, the poor quarter of the town. Why property, like button-holes and decanters, should always go to the west, and poverty should take the opposite direction, is one of those problems which some Dryasdust of the future may solve. But Le Pollet, as the eastern suburb of Dieppe is called, carries out the rule to the fullest extent. Inhabited by the Norman fishermen and their families, it differs in every respect from the well-to-do, and, in the season, the brilliant appearance of Dieppe proper. Life is seen here in its poorest aspect. The houses of wood, the streets narrow, dark, and dreary, the glimpses gained through the open windows, if windows they can be called, the humble furniture that looks as if it never had been new and never could grow older, the little stuffy shops filled with waifs and strays that must haunt the proprietor, from the hopelessness of ever finding a customer for them, the very church of brick that looks cold enough to give an extra chill to the poverty around—all these things present to the other side the contrast that was once so well drawn between our own St. Giles and St. James—the east and west ends of the town. And yet are they an innocent, and perhaps a careless, race, as they sit in the long summer evenings at their doors, the men with their nets, and the women with their wheels, with no cares beyond to-day and hopeful that the morrow will bring, as it often has before, enough for their humble wants and simple fare.

Between the two extremes of Dieppe are the basins and quays, and beside one called the Retenue are the oyster ponds; or, as they are termed in rather grandiloquent language, the Parcs aux Huitres. In these receptacles, which at the proper season are filled with seawater, are kept large reserves or "lays" of oysters for the Paris markets, for which the bivalves undergo a strict process of education, so that they may reach their destination with no diminution of their succulence. The stories told of this training process would be rather apocryphal, were we not assured on very high authority that "an oyster may be crossed in love," and did not another author allude to the "secret, self-contained, and solitary" disposition of this creature. The process, which is gravely called the education of the oysters, is to empty them of their liquor from time to time until a spirit of opposition is aroused, and the oyster, retiring into his self-consciousness, closes his valve and "soaks in his own juice," if one may adapt an expression of a leading statesman of the day to so humble a creature as an oyster. This process is repeated until the oysters have become so accustomed to keep themselves close that they can be transported to long distances without any risk of losing their appetising properties till they come beneath the knife that opens them once for all and closes their existence for ever.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

The accounts of some of the astronomical observers, on the 22nd ult., at Gibraltar, Cadiz, Seville, and Oran, on the African coast, where the eclipse was total, were briefly noticed in our last. We are indebted to Captain T. R. Lethbridge, commanding H.M.S. Trafalgar, and to Mr. Eaton Wallace Petley, navigating midshipman, for the communication of several diagrams, which we have engraved, and of a few notes, to record what they witnessed from the stern of that ship, moored alongside the New Mole at Gibraltar. Their notes are as follows:—"At the commencement of the first contact we did not get the exact time, on account of a cloud passing over; but the time of contact of the first spot on the sun with the moon was 23h. 9m. 56s., Greenwich mean time. The second spot was obscured by cloud. Just before the totality (we may say 3 min.) we observed three bright rays of light shoot out from the S.W. quarter of the sun (as shown in fig. A), which lasted almost 30 sec., and did not appear again until after the totality, when only one ray darted out from the south quarter, as shown in fig. C. During the totality we observed rays of bright light dart from the sun as in fig. B, but observed no red flame. The totality lasted 1m. 25s., during which time the wind lulled considerably; the barometer at 29.93, falling steadily, and thermometer at 61; wind N.W., force 3. We observed three stars, Venus, Mercury, and Saturn. At 21m. 33s. after the totality the first spot on the sun appeared; at 25m. 30s., the second spot appeared; and at 1h. 25m. 40s. from the time of totality the eclipse ended. The time between the contact of the first spot with the moon and the totality was 1h. 6m. 30s.; the time of the totality was 1m. 55s.; the time between the totality and the reappearance of the first spot was 21m. 33s.; the time from the totality to the reappearance of the second spot, was 25m. 30s. The rays of light, as shown in fig. A, darted out suddenly, one after the other, for a certain distance; and, after two seconds interval, as suddenly prolonged themselves, until they had the appearance of those shown in the diagram (fig. A), but after an interval of thirty seconds they disappeared. Their colour was bright red. With reference to fig. B, it was remarked that, during the totality, a bright ray of light appeared to radiate from the centre around the circumference of the moon, but varying in length. The other, fig. C, shows how the light shot out suddenly to the extent shown in the Engraving; this phenomenon lasted about thirty seconds. Some of our readers are aware that the most interesting subject of inquiry to be determined by these observations of the eclipse was the nature of the corona, or "glory," of white light encircling the globe of the sun, and visible only when that globe itself is hidden. This question is, whether this light comes from a luminous gas, an atmosphere of the sun, or from solid matter in a state of white heat. The bright red prominences, flame-like or cloud-like, seen around the disc of the sun during an eclipse are known to belong to an envelope of glowing gas which surrounds the solar globe.

The Company of Clothworkers has given 50 guineas to the Refugees Benevolent Fund,



THE NEW HALL OF THE DRAPERS' COMPANY, THROGMORTON-STREET.



ENTRY OF THE VICEROY OF INDIA INTO JEYPORE.

FINE ARTS.

OLD MASTERS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

The Royal Academy is doing a great service to public taste in assembling these winter gatherings of ancient masterpieces, the second of which is now open. The present collection is nearly twice as numerous as its predecessor was, but includes a larger proportion of inferior and doubtful works. The bulk of the collection is, however, of very high quality, and comprised in it are many of the noblest productions of pictorial art. So magnificent an array of masterpieces has rarely been brought under one roof.

On this occasion we find several works with which the visitor should have been allowed to make close acquaintance placed above "the line." Some instances of this occur in the Great Room. We may allude more especially to "The Spanish Fête: Deer-Hunting" (Lord Ashburton's collection), with its numerous minute figures, ascribed to Velasquez; and Lord Westminster's "Jupiter and Antiope," attributed to Titian, with a grand landscape background, said to be a view of Cadore, the reputed painter's native place. If the Velasquez is genuine (the point cannot be decided in its present position), it is a far more valuable example than the restored picture of a somewhat similar subject in the National Gallery. If the Titian is a true picture, and not by Gaspar Poussin, as conjectured by Waagen, then the background is an important illustration of the master's power in landscape.

The instructiveness of the collection would, however, have been facilitated by a chronological arrangement. A few early Italian pictures have been placed together; but in general the productions of all schools and dates are hung in confusing juxtaposition, and "associated with" works by recently-deceased English painters. To attempt an exact classification within the time at our disposal would be impossible. We shall therefore commence by confining attention, for the most part, to the contents of the principal rooms.

In the entrance vestibule are two gigantic historical pictures, by Salvator Rosa, from the Grosvenor collection. In the one, Democritus, surrounded by skeletons, a vase, and other emblems of nature and art, is meditating on the end of all things. A solemn gloom adds a certain fantastic grandeur to the profound solitude, but is in the last degree conventional. The other represents Diogenes about to throw away his cup on seeing a boy drink out of the hollow of his hand. The murky obscurity deepens here, as though with cynical intent; but the work is very much inferior to its companion, allowing for great sinking of the colours into a dark ground. From the vestibule we proceed at once to the Great Room, or Gallery No. III., where Vandyke, Rubens, and Rembrandt may be studied to unusual advantage—the first especially. Persons acquainted with the superb series of portraits by Vandyke in Genoa will have formed a very different impression of the painter's power from those familiar only with the comparatively sketchy, thin, and cold works which he executed under the pressure of fashionable favour during the later years of his residence in this country, and which probably sowed the seed of some of the flimsy artificiality in modern English portraiture. Here are several examples of Vandyke's best period—when he successfully rivalled his master, Rubens, or while, and immediately after, he was under the influence of the great Venetians. Probably one of the earlier portrait works by Vandyke is Lord Brownlow's "Lady and Child" (125), which is distinctly reminiscent of Rubens; as also, in a minor degree, is "The Wife of Snijders" (159), lent by Lord Warwick. The powerful portrait, so-called, of a "Genoese Senator" (147) from Lord Brownlow's collection, may have been painted in Italy, but if so its grey key of colouring, and composition of pillar and curtain, seem to point to emulation of Veronese. But is not this the portrait of Anton Triest, senator of Ghent, painted soon after Vandyke's return from Italy? It is obvious, however, that, as in all his best Genoese pictures, Titian was the Fleming's model, though Rubens was not forgotten, in "The Balbi Children" (148), lent by the Dowager Countess Cowper. A Titianesque glow suffuses this picture, and there is much affinity to the Venetian master in the rendering of the gold and silver lace on the children's sumptuous costumes. The group of the "Countess of Brignole and Child" (155), contributed by Lord Warwick, is also most masterly, yet a taint of the painter's later tendency to affectation crept into the treatment of the hands. Rather less solid, but a marvel of consummate draughtsmanship and perfectly understood individuality, is Lord Ashburton's "Count John of Nassau" (106), spiritedly holding his bâton as general of cavalry, a portrait painted with Vandyke's ripest power on his return to the Netherlands. A full-length of the "Countess of Carlisle" (157), in a scarlet-crimson satin dress, from Windsor Castle, and another well-known half-length of "Sir Edmund Verney" (162) are among the better pictures executed by Vandyke in England. Lord Warwick's full-length of "The Countess of Santa Croce" (150) is a repetition of the picture exhibited last year. The group of "The Duke of Buckingham and his Brother" (116), from Windsor Castle, also exists in replica.

Rubens may likewise be studied at different periods if to less advantage than Vandyke—that is to say, there is no figure composition here quite so fine as several of his works in Antwerp. Judging by internal evidence—the only trustworthy evidence as regards old pictures to those who can read it—Lord Warwick's half-length of "Marchese Spinola" (103) differs so materially in the formal pencilling of the face and beard from any known work by "Rubens," and is so much more careful than even his earliest pictures at Munich and elsewhere, that if by the master it must be antedated to any of these. This assumption, however, would not accord with the age as represented of the astute General of Philip II. in the Netherlands. But it is almost impossible to conceive that the precise painter of the Marchese's richly embossed and damascened breastplate was the same who with such fire and vigour dashed in the armour of the portrait (from the same collection) of "Lord Arundel" (158), the great collector. A picture with which we believe the name of Rubens to be inaccurately associated is the "Woman and Child with Fruit" (109), from Lord Bute's collection. The groups of grapes, peaches, melons, and quinces are painted with the full power and breadth of manner of Snijders; but the inaccuracy, beyond carelessness, with which the figures are drawn is unworthy of Rubens, and must be attributed to one of his numerous scholars. Possibly Snijders assisted in Lord Ashburton's celebrated, but in parts unequal, "Wolf-Hunt" (110), though much of the work is doubtless from Rubens's hand, about three years only after his return from Italy. The spectator is struck with astonishment at seeing how triumphantly all sorts of difficulties are courted and conquered—as, for instance, the foreshortening of the mounted figure to the left centre; the relieving the handsome dappled iron-grey horse, rearing to the right against the warm, grey sky; the violent twisted action of the wolf, as he turns to bite the spear-head, and the discrimination of his shaggy skin from the softer wooliness of the slinking foxes, and the sleeker coats of horses and dogs. Yet the huntsman on foot is wooden, and the lady and gentlemen riders (though portraits of Rubens and his first wife)

have that sameness of type and poverty of individuality commonly found in many large later works, in which the master was assisted by some of his pupils. This picture was painted, in 1612, for the Spanish General Legranes; and in 1824 was bought, at Paris, by Mr. Smith, the dealer, for 50,000 francs.

A work admirable in its human characterisation, and therefore to be ranked higher in art, is the so-called "Duchess of Buckingham and her Children" (111), incorrectly attributed in the catalogue to Vandyke. Probably some of the warm glazings have disappeared. The bright-eyed child in front is obviously the same that appears in the National Gallery picture of "Peace," where it has long passed as Rubens's daughter; and, if this tradition be well founded, the title of the picture must be wholly inaccurate. The large picture, in the Dudley collection, of "Hyppolytus" (387) is one of Rubens's most superb classical compositions. The torso of the demigod is in the painter's grandest style of design, and evidently emulative of Michael Angelo. Lastly, a genuine Rubens of surpassing excellence is Lord Dudley's "Landscape—Moonlight" (350). We remember no landscape work by the versatile master which leaves so deep an impression of profound feeling, concentrated power of suggestiveness, and broad, magistral directness of execution.

Rembrandt, as usual, stands alone, if not absolutely supreme. With inscrutable magic of art, no painter ever got so close to nature; yet no painter's style is so intensely individual. Here is Lord Westminster's half-length of "A Man with a Hawk" (123), the engaging, refined, fair young face brightening in a stray ray of faint light—as Nature herself might have painted a portrait, playfully and caressingly limning it out of shadow. Who shall say after this, and after looking at that neighbouring half-length, "A Lady with a Fan" (136), supposed to be the wife of the preceding, though their ages scarcely correspond, that the great Dutchman surpassed others only when rendering ugliness? The features of the latter are modelled in full light with most exquisite delicacy and truth, and a wonderful glamour plays about the jewelled stomacher, yet it is scarcely so characteristic of Rembrandt's unrivalled mastery of chiaroscuro. No. 114 is a portrait of his later time, stronger in light and shade, and thicker in impasto, but the rusty-hued shadow-tones are rather infelicitous. Other models of perfect portraiture are Nos. 77 and 370. Here also is the elaborate well-known "Christ Preaching" (345), or, as it was called heretofore, "St. John Preaching in the Wilderness"—a composition replete with dramatic invention, though many of the elements are distressingly prosaic, and of special technical interest as showing Rembrandt's method of advancing his oil pictures; the general effect was, we see, studied in monochromatic brown and then the colouring commenced with the greys of the distance. We must also include among fine samples of the almost-lost art of portraiture the "Senator" (101) by Sebastiano del Piombo; another "Senator" (120) by Bassano; and that masterpiece of unflinching, unmitigated individuality, Holbein's portrait of the third Duke of Norfolk (153), from Windsor Castle.

The Reynoldses in the Great Room will not bear comparison with the productions of the masters of the Low Countries. Lady Holland's family-group, including a portrait of Fox when young (116), is interesting; but the figures are ill-drawn, the execution is slight, the painter's theory of generalisation is carried to excess, and the conception is familiar to commonplace. Colonel Tarleton (160) engaged in battle, again, is theatrical and the colouring unfortunately bricky. Compare this with the gorgeous wealth of lustrous, jewelled colouring in Tintoretto's "Esther and Ahasuerus" (151), the great picture from Hampton Court, above the line. The whole-length of Mrs. Matthews is, however, a good average portrait by our English master; but Reynolds's special felicity in rendering childish naïveté and grace is, perhaps, best illustrated by the "Child in a Mob Cap," among Lord Dudley's pictures. Gainsborough, though (as in all extensive collections) too often weak, mannered, and sketchy to a fault, is almost sure to prove in some one or two works fascinating beyond the power of language to define the subtle, airy beauty that enthralls. This time it is in a small bust of a boy in a pale grey-green dress—"Edward R. Gardiner, nephew of the painter" (154), lent by a gentleman of the same name as the artist's relative. The brilliancy of this head, the greys of the half tints—of a lovely pearliness, which no other painter in oil, ancient or modern, has ever equalled for purity—and the amazing spirit of the handling, are literally ineffable. It is one of the very choicest, sweetest gems of the entire exhibition. There is a very good Romney of Lady Russell holding her child to a glass. A picture by Terburg (142) is a foil in its silvery grey tone to Mulready's "Whistonian Controversy" (146), close by, with its hot colouring—a besetting fault in the painter's later works. The two large Claudes, the "Landing of Æneas" and the "Sermon on the Mount," have (especially the first) the painter's characteristic brilliancy and beauty of tone; but the lanky figures and the absurdly piled-up rocks in the second would justify Mr. Ruskin's bitterest railery. With cursory mention of Turner's grand composition à la Gaspar Poussin, the "Fifth Plague of Egypt" (140), we may pass for a moment to the first gallery in order to note a pretentious picture entitled "Italy" (40), which, though ascribed to Turner, is most decidedly not by him. As in every loan exhibition, the owners' titles must be accepted; but we wonder the Academicians admitted this misleading picture; and we wonder still more that Mr. Wynn-Ellis should be the possessor.

Earl Dudley's collection occupies two whole rooms and part of a third. A few of the treasures therein contained have already been noticed incidentally; and the majority of the remainder have been publicly exhibited at Leeds and elsewhere; the noble proprietor is, however, constantly making fresh acquisitions. Among the most costly of these additions are the examples of Greuze purchased at recent sales in Paris. The cluster of five pictures by the French master in the lecture room cost, we believe, £14,000—vastly more, in our opinion, than they are worth intrinsically and comparatively, whatever their present marketable value. The wide difference of price that works by certain masters have fetched at various times would furnish a striking commentary on the caprice of fashion, and prove its influence to be often far greater than the just appreciation of art. One can readily understand the causes which of late years, at Paris, gave a fictitious value to the productions of Greuze. He is a national master, with an unquestionably fascinating style, and there is just so much that is artificial and equivocal in his feeling and aims as would suffice to render him the darling of Fashion in a society predisposed by the luxury and polished licentiousness of the Empire to relish such artistic peccadilloes. The vogue once attained, and competition excited, the object desired is the more coveted, not for its actual worth, but in proportion to the cost of gratifying the pride of exclusive possession. We are by no means insensible to the merits of the painter: his colouring is deliciously silvery, his modelling meltingly sweet, and the type of girlhood he so frequently represents is charmingly fresh, but too often its innocence is compromised by languishing eyes and coquettish smiles. Greuze's technical weakness is in drawing. The upper halves

of the figures are much too large for the lower in the picture (393) of a lover disguised as a pedlar discovered by the enraged mother of his mistress.

Lord Dudley's taste appears to be, however, of the most catholic description; certainly his ambition is to render his collection as diversely representative as possible. Its strength resides in works of the Italian schools, with the exception of the Venetian and later Bolognese, and in pictures of Murillo; but there is a fair sprinkling of examples of other schools. Many of the pictures are, however, wrongly or doubtfully named. The rule seems to be in regard to these pictures, as with some other collectors, that whatever the ascription the work bears when purchased, it shall be retained. For purposes of historical identification the system has advantages, but these are far more than counterbalanced by the evils attending the perpetuation of error—evils more sensibly felt in a public exhibition; besides which the more obvious inaccuracies may induce persons unacquainted with the possible existence of such a rule as that to which we have referred to reflect unfairly on the owner's discrimination. To quote a few of the names of masters to whom works are wrongly attributed we may mention "Holbein"—a weak and frightful version of the porcine physiognomy of Francis I. (294); "Raphael"—six small whole-lengths of saints, probably by Lo Spagna; "Titian"—a "Mother and Child" (351), and "Danae" (368), with none of the essential characteristics of the great Venetian; "Baldassare Peruzzi"—an "Adoration of the Shepherds" (383), poor, and quite unworthy of such a painter; and "Jan Van Eyck"—"Celebration of High Mass" (326), too pale in tone for this painter, though a marvel of delicate elaboration and beautiful colouring. "The Golden Age" (384) is glowing and voluptuous, but too brown and dense in finish, so to speak, for "Giorgione." A fine picture here called "Susannah and the Elders" (365), and attributed to Titian, is the same, we presume, which Waagen with some plausibility considered to be an early work of Paris Bordone; but the Doctor was mistaken in describing the personages attending the nude figure as "old women;" they are certainly male figures. The subject is nevertheless enigmatical, though probably simply of contemporary bearing.

The "Magdalen Reading" (305) is generally accepted as an original repetition of the famous picture by Correggio at Dresden, and as such ranks among Lord Dudley's choicest gems. Assuredly the figure is entirely worthy of Correggio; nothing can surpass the exquisitely delicate finish of its execution and the melting softness of the modelling transitions, from the tenderly brilliant lights to the intense yet transparent shadows. At the same time Dr. Waagen justly pointed out that "neither in the Magdalen at Dresden nor in any other work by Correggio does the same character of landscape background occur;" and that "its many details testify to the hand of a skilful Netherlandish painter." Another gem, the genuineness of which has not been seriously disputed, is the picture of "The Three Graces" (2), painted by Raphael in 1506, according to Passavant, and therefore a work of comparatively matured power, though of miniature dimensions. The composition is taken from the well-known antique group in the library of the cathedral of Siena, and Raphael's drawing from the group is preserved in the Academy at Venice. The enormous stride which Raphael had already made may be measured by comparing the noble draughtsmanship here with the feeble drawing and stiff mannerism in the large signed picture of the "Crucifixion" (307), painted not later than 1500, and scarcely distinguishable, saving in the superior refinement of the heads, from a work by his master, Perugino. Yet this is remarkable as the production of a youth of seventeen. Below the crucified Saviour are the Virgin and the kneeling St. Jerome on the right, and St. John and the Magdalen on the left. This picture was painted originally for the chapel of the Gavari family, in the Dominican Church at Città di Castello, whence it passed into the Fesch Gallery, and thence into the possession of Lord Ward.

Among several early Italian pictures are a characteristic example of Giotto, the illustrious pioneer of the Italian art of the fourteenth century, "The Last Supper" (310); and a very representative and important work by Fra Angelico, with whom, in the fifteenth century, mediæval devotional art reached its most exalted pinnacle of sanctity—the celebrated picture from the Fesch Gallery, containing an elaborate representation, with countless figures, of the Last Judgment, strangely styled in the catalogue "Il Paradiso" (310). The great beauty of this picture is in the expression of pure and holy joy which irradiates the countenances of the angels and the blessed. Descending to later times we have a very pathetically-expressive and finely-coloured "Virgin and Child" (319), by Francesco Francia, and a large "Birth of Christ" (361), by Pierino del Vaga, powerful but hot in colour, and remarkable for the sweet naturalness of the face of the adoring Virgin. Two fresco fragments in the lecture-room containing heads of angels are of the highest artistic interest as showing Correggio's mastery in the medium through which he achieved his stupendous triumphs at Parma. We know not on what authority the catalogue asserts that these heads are "after Raphael." No doubt has hitherto existed that they are fragments of Correggio's celebrated original fresco of the "Coronation of the Virgin" in the old apsis of San Giovanni at Parma, which the church authorities removed in the last century for the purpose of enlarging the choir.

The Murillos need not detain us long—the series of six illustrations of the Prodigal Son having been reviewed in our notice of the Leeds Exhibition. An old Dutch painter could scarcely have told the story of the parable in more familiar fashion or with more homely humour. The large composition of numerous figures approaching lifesize, representing "The Virgin Covering the Body of Santa Clara with a Mantle Brought from Heaven" (388), is new to us, and an important example of the more decorative style adopted by the master in the treatment of religious themes at nearly his best period. The sombre group of black-frocked mourning monks is dramatically contrasted with the effulgent joyous train of celestial visitants. The secondary position assigned to our Saviour is appropriate to the incident as well as in keeping with Spanish Maryolatry. A portrait of a lady (415), in stiff, quaintly-fashioned black dress and towering coiffure, by Velasquez, is a most vigorous piece of vital characterisation. This completes the number of Lord Dudley's pictures which seemed specially to invite comment; and here we must pause for the present.

We have to announce the death of Mr. Alexander Munro, the sculptor. For a long time this admirable artist and most amiable man had been in bad health. He died at Cannes on the 1st inst. Mr. Munro's portrait will be given shortly in this paper.

Mr. Adams-Acton has been commissioned to execute a seated statue in marble of Sir Titus Salt, which is to be erected before the townhall of Bradford to commemorate the great benefits conferred by Sir Titus on the town and on Saltair. The same sculptor is also commissioned to execute a recumbent memorial statue in marble of the late Bishop Waldegrave for Carlisle Cathedral.

LAW AND POLICE.

A broken matrimonial engagement which, according to the letters read in court, was of the most sensible character, occupied a jury at the Sheriffs' Court, Red Lion-square, last week. The defendant had allowed judgment to go by default, and the jury assessed the damages at £150.—The jury at this court were employed, yesterday week, in assessing damages in another breach-of-promise case. Judgment had gone by default in the Court of Queen's Bench, and the amount claimed by plaintiff (the daughter of a shipwright at Woolwich) was £500. The defendant is an assistant engineer in the Royal Navy, with an income of £136, and the jury awarded the lady £100.

Judgment in the Norwich election petition was given on Wednesday. Mr. Justice Keating held that Mr. Tillett had not been duly elected, on the ground that he had coalesced with Sir W. Russell, for whom Mr. Ray was election agent. The latter had caused a Mr. Lacey to bribe an elector to vote for the two Liberal candidates. Each party was ordered to pay its own costs.

It has fallen to the Chairman of the Londonderry Quarter Sessions to deliver the first important decision under the Irish Land Act. A tenant of Sir Hervey Bruce, M.P., claimed compensation to the extent of £264 for alleged improvements effected on his holding. The landlord relied upon a set-off on account of bad cultivation and unskilful management. This, however, was not sustained, and judgment, to a qualified extent, was given for the tenant.

At the Central Criminal Court a publican named Fairchild has been convicted of having, within four months after he had been adjudicated a bankrupt, removed part of his property, and also of wilfully breaking up and destroying some of his furniture and shop-fittings, to the prejudice of his creditors. He was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour. Mr. Lamb, barrister, charged with stealing books from the library at Lincoln's Inn, was acquitted of that offence, but found guilty of feloniously receiving. The jury strongly recommended him to mercy, and the Court sentenced him to nine months' hard labour. Mrs. Durrant, coffee-house keeper, London-road, Southwark, in whose possession two £1000 bank notes (part of the proceeds of a robbery of £10,000 from a bank clerk in Chancery-lane) were found, was sentenced to two years' hard labour.

At the Middlesex Sessions a man named Crouch, aged thirty, was convicted, last week, of stealing a gold watch from Joseph Henderson, an optician, while he was passing through a crowd at Highbury. Other convictions were proved, and he was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour. On leaving the dock he threatened the prosecutor with vengeance when the term of imprisonment had expired. Upon this he was brought back, and on being reprimanded the ruffian with a solemn adjuration repeated his threat. The Judge thereupon increased the sentence to five years' penal servitude.

Several convictions for smoking on the Metropolitan Railway have recently taken place.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court, yesterday week, William Brown, a youth, was fined 10s. and 2s. costs, or seven days' imprisonment for cutting with a knife a wooden seat in the new Finsbury Park.

A. M. Walker, who was charged with fraudulently obtaining sums of money under pretence of effecting insurances against breakage of plate glass, has been before the magistrate at the Marlborough-street Police Court on several occasions. Yesterday week the evidence was completed and the defendant committed for trial.

Two men were convicted at Worship-street, on Monday, of gambling in the streets by setting up that which is commonly known as a "wheel of fortune." One, who had previously been in prison for a like offence, was sentenced to three months' hard labour, and the other to twenty-eight days of the like punishment.

At the Thames Police Court, yesterday week, Edgar Mayne, a seaman, was charged, under the Sanitary Act, with riding in a cab while he was labouring under smallpox, and neglecting to give notice to the driver of the fact. A cabdriver named Weller, who drove the defendant in his cab to various places, was fined twenty shillings, a few days since, for not disinfecting his cab directly after he had received notice that he had carried a smallpox patient in it. The defendant Mayne entered Weller's cab on Stepney-green, on the 7th ult., and directed him to drive to the London Hospital, where he sought admission, but was refused. The cabman was directed to drive the patient to the Whitechapel union-house, which was done. Mr. Mayer, the master of the house, turned the defendant out of the hall, where he was standing, and directed the cabman to take him back to the London Hospital. He was a second time refused admission, and the defendant then discharged the cab and found his way to the Smallpox Hospital. He was a patient there three weeks, and came out cured. A police-sergeant traced the defendant from place to place, and ascertained that after he left the cab it was placed on a rank and numerous fares were taken in it all over London. When the attention of Mr. Harvey, of the Mulberry Tree, Stepney-green, proprietor of the cab, was called to the occurrence, he carefully disinfected it, destroyed the inside lining and the cushions, and repainted the outside and the wheels. The cab has not yet been sent out for hire. Mr. Paget fined the defendant 6s., and ordered him to pay Mr. Harvey £3, the expenses incurred in the disinfection and cleansing of the cab, or be imprisoned one month. The defendant was unable to raise more than £2 in addition to the fine, and Mr. Harvey agreed to accept that sum.

George Henry Henderson, a jeweller at Southampton, has been sentenced to ten months' imprisonment for fraudulently pledging his property within four months of his bankruptcy. The prosecutors were Messrs. Pyke and Alexander, of London, from whom he had obtained jewellery to the amount of £393.

At the Police Court, Bolton, two hairdressers, named Lancaster and Bennison, were, on Monday, charged, at the instance of the Bolton Hairdressers' Association, with shaving on Sunday, the 1st inst., "the same not being a work of necessity or charity." The offences were proved, and defendants were each fined 5s., the prosecutors to pay the costs.

At the Dorset Quarter Sessions Edith Florence Howard, a notorious swindler, bearing a number of aliases, has been sentenced to five years' penal servitude for obtaining goods by false representations from a number of Weymouth tradesmen, there being several previous convictions recorded against her for similar offences in different parts of the West of England. The accused, who is said to be respectably connected, has spent the last seven years of her life in prison.

The Bristol Dock Board has resolved to recommend the corporation of the city to subscribe £100,000 towards the new ocean docks now in course of construction at Avonmouth.

THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.

On Wednesday the half-yearly court of this society was held in Trafalgar-square—Mr. Hawes in the chair. After some formal business, Mr. Grey moved the following resolution:—"That this society recognise the intrepid and gallant conduct of the late Mr. John Walter, who, in endeavouring to save the lives of a younger brother and cousin, lost his own life at Bearwood, Berkshire, Dec. 24, 1870. The brave young man, had he survived, would have had awarded to him the silver medal of the society. Unhappily, by his untoward end, the court are prevented from giving their high appreciation of his humane, noble, and gallant conduct." The Rev. Canon Nepean seconded the motion, which was agreed to nem. con. The Duke of Argyll was unanimously re-elected president, and a vote of thanks was passed to him for his services as past president. The vice-presidents and other officers were re-elected. The balance-sheet presented showed that the payments included £162 for rent, rates, and taxes. The honorary and pecuniary rewards amounted to £213; the salaries and wages of icemen, &c., took £820; the Hyde Park receiving-house cost £154; and the apparatus, drags, &c., cost £123. To meet these costs only £129 had been received in subscriptions and £67 in donations during the year. It was stated that the icemen's wages during the frost had cost the society £200 extra. The cases agreed to be recommended to the general court for the award of a silver medal were as follow:—Sub-Lieutenant A. A. Taylor, her Majesty's ship *Zealous*, for trying to save a boy who fell overboard at sea, lat. 4° 75' N., long. 126° 51' W. (recommended by the Admiralty); Miss Ina Cummins, under eighteen years of age, for saving Mrs. Jack, who was carried out by the tide while bathing at White Point, Queenstown, Ireland; Mr. Harry E. Thomson, midshipman, her Majesty's ship *Nymph*, for saving Thomas Hodges, who fell overboard at Bombay; James Try, for saving Thomas Deane, who was carried out by the tide while bathing at Tynemouth; Miss M. L. Scott, for saving Miss Frederick, who was in danger of drowning at Bandon, Ireland; Cuthbert C. Grundy, for saving two boys who were in danger of drowning at Grange-over-Sands, Lancashire; Sub-Lieutenant William B. Forbes, her Majesty's ship *Rapid*, for saving W. T. Prichard, who fell overboard at sea off the coast of Spain; and Commander E. Poulton, R.N., for saving Thomas Evans, aged thirteen, who fell overboard at Portishead, Bristol.

This society has conferred its distinctions upon many persons who have saved others from drowning, and pecuniary rewards have been given in various cases.

Its bronze medal was unanimously voted to George Rouse and Edward Hunt for saving James Tamlin, who fell overboard, in Babbicombe Bay, from a boat. Mr. Rouse, on seeing the fall, plunged to the man's assistance (the water being 30 ft. deep) from a steamer; but before he could reach him he sank twice. On rising to the surface the second time, however, Mr. Rouse seized him and proceeded to swim with him to the boat, but Tamlin struggled and grasped him so firmly by the arms as to seriously impede their progress, and both were in danger of drowning, when Mr. Hunt, another passenger, jumped overboard to their assistance, and with his and Mr. Rouse's combined efforts Tamlin was eventually placed in his boat and rowed ashore.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland left Dublin on Tuesday for Moore Abbey, Monasterivan, on a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Drogheda, until Thursday, when his Excellency returned to the Viceroyal Lodge.

The schooner *Handy*, of Wexford, after striking on the Blackwater Bank, on the 10th inst., sprang a leak and had to be run ashore at Cahore, in the county of Wexford, when her crew of five men were saved by the Sir George Bowles life-boat, belonging to the National Life-Boat Institution.

Five of the released Fenian prisoners—O'Donovan Rossa, O'Connell, Shaw, McClure, and Devoy—left the Mersey, last Saturday, for New York, on board the Royal Mail steamer *Cuba*, as first-class passengers. Some of their friends witnessed their departure. A mere formal recognition only and a waving of handkerchiefs were allowed. The released prisoners left London on Friday evening, accompanied by Captain Griffiths, deputy governor of Millbank, and four warders. Rossa and McClure are to be expatriated for twenty years, and O'Connell and Devoy for four and five years. On the vessel's arrival at Queenstown committees from Dublin and Cork went on board, and furnished each of the men with an outfit and £20. Mrs. Rossa joined her husband there. The prisoners expressed themselves satisfied with the terms of their pardon and their treatment by the Government.

THE FLOODS IN ROME.

The overflow of the Tiber, from the sudden melting of the snow in the Apennine mountain country, inundated great part of the city of Rome, three days after Christmas Day, and caused much distress to the inhabitants. The photograph from which our Illustration is engraved was taken on the terrace of the Pincian Hill, or public pleasure-ground, looking over the Piazza del Popolo to the opposite side of the Tiber, where the majestic dome of St. Peter's, and the extensive pile of the Vatican beside it, fill the background of the view. The Piazza del Popolo, entered from the city gate on the north side of the city, is a meeting-point of three long streets—the Via di Ripetta to the right hand, along the bank of the river; the Corso, the principal street of Rome, in the middle; and the Via del Babuino to the left hand, leading into the Piazza di Spagna, where foreign visitors usually dwell. Upon this occasion not only the Ripetta, but the Piazza del Popolo and the Corso, for a length of three quarters of a mile, as far as the central Piazza Colonna, were flooded to a depth of six or eight feet. It is said that no former inundation, since the sixteenth century, has been so great as this; but there was a great one in 1846, at the beginning of the reign of Pius IX. The Corso was traversed by boats and rafts, which latter were often extemporised from tables, or other household furniture. The people in the houses were supplied with provisions by letting down baskets from their upper windows to the bakers and butchers passing in those vehicles, as no horse and cart was able to go into the streets during twenty-four hours. On the evening of the 28th the Piazza del Popolo looked like a lake, with two great torrents of water pouring into it from the Ripetta and the Corso. In the middle stood the Egyptian obelisk and the four lions of the fountain, still above water, the lions' mouths continuing to pour out their contribution, which is usually received by the four marble basins of the fountain. Between the Piazza del Popolo, shown in the foreground of our Engraving, and St. Peter's in the distance, the flood swept over everything except a few isolated houses, to which it was all but impossible to convey food for the imprisoned inhabitants. It is said that two Italian soldiers, in attempting to do so, were drowned. This space of land, only a few days ago, was greatly recommended as a site for a modern quarter of Rome, to be built by a company, upon land which, it seems wisely, has hitherto been only used for gardens. On the

map it looks a tempting piece of open land, though very near the centre of Rome; but, unfortunately, the Tiber runs between it and the small, low suburb about the Piazza del Popolo. This difficulty was to have been overcome by a modern bridge, which would connect the proposed modern quarter of Rome with the Piazza del Popolo. The King of Italy, by previous arrangement, came on the 31st, arriving at four o'clock in the morning, to see Rome, the new capital of his kingdom, which he had never before visited. He was received by the patriotic citizens with hearty expressions of attachment; but the city was in a miserable condition, and no festivities could be attempted. His Majesty viewed the scene of devastation from his carriage on the Pincian Hill. He left a donation of £16,000 for the relief of the sufferers, and desired the municipality to use in like manner the £40,000 they had intended for the expenses of his reception.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Business in the Stock Exchange has been on a more liberal scale during the week, in consequence of the belief that Paris must capitulate at no very remote date, and also owing to the abundance of money and the demand for good dividend-paying Stocks. Some confusion has been created by the new Stamp Act, compelling holders of bonds issued since 1862 to have their Securities stamped at the rate of 4 for every £100 bond; but a deputation has waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and it is expected that a proper arrangement will be come to. For Home Securities there has been a healthy inquiry. Consols have risen to 92½ to 92¾ for Delivery and the Account. Reduced and New Three per Cents, 92½ to 92¾. Bank Stock, 233 to 235; Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 15s. prem.; India Five per Cents, 110 to 110½; and India Bonds, 22s. to 27s. prem.

Colonial Government Securities have been quietly dealt in, but the quotations have ruled firm.

In the market for English Railway Stocks the business doing has been of a full average character, and the leading traffic receipts being favourable, prices have improved in many instances. Indian Railway Stocks have been quiet, and there has not been much demand for Canadian or Foreign Shares. Caledonian, 87½ to 88; Great Eastern, 40½ to 40¾; Great Northern, A, 136½ to 137; Great Western, 72½ to 72¾; London and Brighton, 43 to 43½; London and North-Western, 129½ to 130; Metropolitan, 63½ to 64; Midland, 130½ to 130¾; North-Eastern, 146½ to 147; and South-Eastern, 76 to 76½.

In the Foreign Bond Market the business doing has been to a fair extent, and an average improvement of about ¼ per cent has been established in prices.—Egyptian, 1868, 78½ to 78¾; Italian, 1861, 53½ to 53¾; Spanish, 2½ to 2½½; Mexican, 13½ to 14; Peruvian, 1865, 89½ to 90; Turkish Five per Cents, 45½ to 45¾; Ditto, 1869, 50½ to 50¾; United States 5-20, 1832, Bonds, 83½ to 83¾; Ditto, 1865, 89½ to 89¾; French 5 per Cents, 2½ to 2½½; and German, 1½ to 1½½ pm.

In Bank Shares the transactions have been restricted, but the quotations have ruled firm.

Telegraph Shares have been quiet:—Anglo-American Telegraph, 73 to 74½; Constructions, 24½ to 24¾.

For Miscellaneous Securities the demand has been limited.

No change has been made in the Bank rate; but in the general market, with a plentiful supply of money, the quotations have ruled easier, and three months' paper has been negotiated at 2 to 2½ per cent. The discount houses have reduced their rate of allowance for money at fourteen days to 1½ per cent.

Gold has been in request for export during the week, and, as the arrivals have not been sufficient to meet the demand, some parcels have been withdrawn from the Bank. It is stated that the remaining half of the war credit of 100 million thalers, or about £16,000,000, granted by the North German Parliament on the Nov. 29 last, of which a portion (£3,000,000 in the shape of Five per Cent Treasury Bonds), was issued by the London Joint-Stock Bank in December, will shortly be required, and that this additional supply has been taken by the same contractors at a much higher rate, in consequence of the favour in which the loan was received in Germany, where last week it went to 2½ per cent prem. As yet it appears to be uncertain whether any of the fresh issue will come to this market.

Subscription have been invited for 1,000,000 dols., Seven per Cent Bonds of the State of Georgia, at the price of 78, an introduction which seems inopportune at the present moment, when the public have just been advised of the default of the State of Alabama.

At a meeting of the Union Bank of London—Mr. Northall Laurie presiding—the available total was stated at £120,125, and a dividend for the half year was declared at the rate of 15 per cent per annum, which will absorb £90,000, and leave £30,125 to be carried forward. The dividend was the same at the corresponding date of last year, and £24,269 was then carried forward. The deposits held are £11,297,634, an increase of £281,732 on the corresponding date of last year, and the liabilities on acceptances are £4,205,591, a decrease of £767,114. The paid-up capital is £1,200,000, and the reserve fund invested in Consols is £200,000.

The directors of the Union Marine Insurance Company (Limited) will recommend a payment of 10s. per share, making with the interim dividend of July last a distribution at the rate of 15 per cent for the year. They will further propose an addition of £20,000 to the reserve fund.

The directors of the City Bank have resolved to declare a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent per annum, and to add £5000 to the reserve fund, which will then stand at £100,000. The dividend and the addition to the reserve were of the same amount at the corresponding date last year.

The directors of the Colonial Company (Limited) have declared an ad interim dividend of 10s. per share for the half year ended Dec. 31, being at the rate of 5 per cent per annum. A similar distribution was made at the corresponding date of last year.

The directors of the Jorehaut Tea Company (Limited) have resolved to recommend an interim dividend for the half year at the rate of 10 per cent per annum.

The report of the English and Foreign Credit Company (Limited), to be presented on the 24th inst., recommends a dividend of 5s. 6d. per share, or at the rate of 6½ per cent per annum, which will absorb £2999, leaving, after the appropriation of £1155 to the suspense account, £415 to be carried forward.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The wheat trade has ruled dull throughout the week, and sales of both English and foreign wheat have been difficult to effect, even at a reduction of 1s. to 2s. per quarter. Supplies of English have been small, but the condition of the samples has shown decided improvement. Barley, beans, and peas have given way ½s. per quarter in value; while maize and oats may be quoted 6d. to 1s. per quarter lower. There has been very little doing in flour, and prices are nominal in the absence of important business.

Arrivals this Week.—English and Scotch: Wheat, 80; barley, 100 qrs. Foreign: Wheat, 15,210; barley, 9560; maize, 14,310; oats, 7340; beans, 1340 qrs.; flour, 11,380 barrels.

English Currency.—Red wheat, 47s. to 53s.; white ditto, 51s. to 55s.; barley, 30s. to 42s.; malt, 56s. to 63s.; oats, 22s. to 27s.; beans, 38s. to 40s.; peas, 40s. to 47s. per quarter; flour, 35s. to 47s. per 280 lb.

Seeds.—There is a good business passing in agricultural seeds for the time of year, and prices have ruled very firm. Clover, alsike, and trefoil have commanded extreme rates.

Colonial Produce.—Sugar has been in active request, and has tended upwards in value throughout the week. Refined goods have risen in proportion. Coffee has sold steadily, at full rates for both native and plantation descriptions. Tea has been dull, and inferior sorts are rather cheaper. Rice has been little inquired after.

Wool.—The wool market has been quiet, but there is a fair consumptive demand on home account. The export inquiry is now stopped. Prices are without material change.

Hops.—A fair trade has been doing in old and new medium hops, at steady rates. Some considerable quantities have been taken on speculation, prices being low.

Oils.—Lined oil has been inactive, at 30s. spot; English brown rape, 46s. 9d. to 47s.; refined, 48s.; foreign, 50s. to 50s. 6d. Fish oils dull.

Tallow.—Market steady, at 45s. Y.O., spot; 45s. 6d., March; 45s. 6d., April—June.

Coals.—Newcastle, 15s. 3d. to 17s.; Sunderland, 15s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.; Hartlepool and West Hartlepool, 17s. to 18s. 9d.; Blyth, Scotch, Welsh, and York, 18s. per ton.

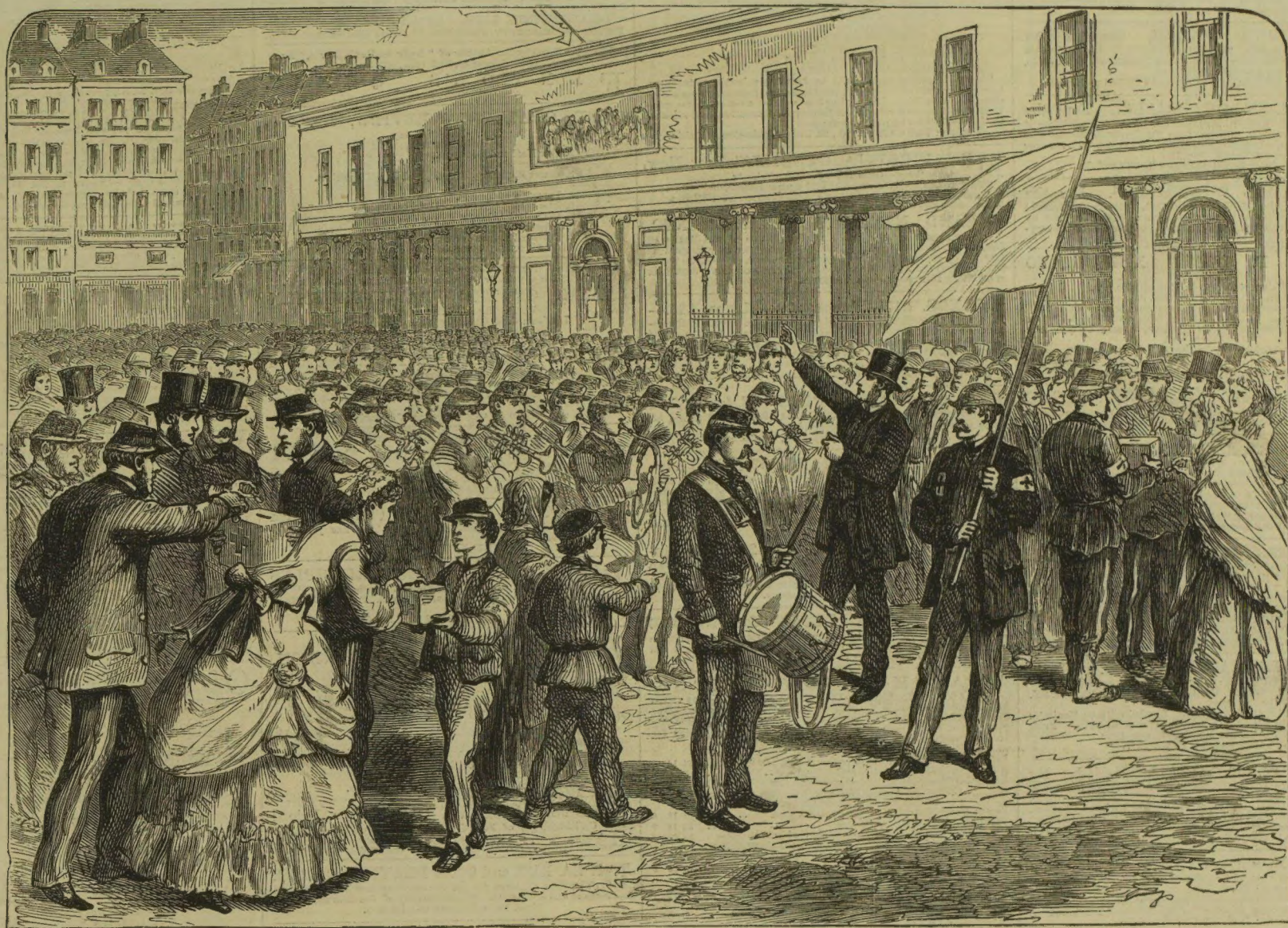
Hay and Straw.—The market has again been moderately supplied with hay and clover. The trade was quiet, but values were unchanged.—Prime meadow hay, 130s. to 140s.; inferior ditto, 110s. to 120s.; prime first-cut clover, 135s. to 145s.; inferior ditto, 115s. to 125s.; prime second-cut clover, 126s. to 135s.; inferior ditto, 105s. to 115s.; and straw, 33s. to 42s. per load.

Metropolitan Cattle Market (Thursday).—Although there were only limited supplies of stock on sale here to-day, the cattle trade was not animated, but no material alteration took place in values. An average number of Scotch beasts came to hand in good condition; but butchers exhibited very little disposition to operate, though easier terms were occasionally offered. The best Scots and crosses sold at 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. Transactions in the sheep market were again restricted, and even the choicest Downs and half-breeds could not thoroughly maintain Monday's quotation, which were 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d., the top price generally current being 6s. per 8 lb. Calves were disposed of to a fair extent, owing to their scarcity; but the pig market was much depressed, the few sales effected being at Monday's reduction.

Per 8 lb. to sink the offal.—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; prime large oxen, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d.; prime Scots, &c., 5s. 10d. to 6s. 0d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; prime coarse-wooled sheep, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 8d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; large hogs, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 2d.; neat small porkers, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 4d.; quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 26s. each. Total Supply:—English: Beasts, 890; sheep, 4500; calves, 35. Foreign: Beasts, 190.



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a valuable specific for Restoring the Hair. Its constant
use by the families of the Nobility stamps its superior excellence.
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100 Perfumed Rings from an Empty Box. Post-free
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THE NEW HAND MACHINE
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KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.

This celebrated and most delicious old mellow spirit is the very CREAM OF IRISH WHISKIES, in quality unrivalled, perfectly pure, and more wholesome than the finest Cognac Brandy.

Note the words "Kinahan's LL" on seal, label, and cork.

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Sherry .. 24s., 30s., 36s., 42s. per dozen.
Port .. 24s., 30s., 36s., 42s. per dozen.
Hock and Moselle .. 24s., 30s., 36s., 42s. per dozen.
Champagne .. 24s., 30s., 36s., 42s. per dozen.
Claret .. 14s., 18s., 24s., 30s., 36s., 42s. per dozen.
Fine Old Brandy 48s., 60s., 72s., 84s. per dozen.

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155, Regent-street, London; and 30, King's-road, Brighton.

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INDIA PALE and EDINBURGH ALES,
of the finest quality, and in the highest state of perfection, may be obtained in Cask and Bottle from Bottlers and the principal Retailers in the Kingdom. Observe Signature and Trade Mark on each Label, as other brands are frequently substituted. Breweries—Edinburgh (Established 1749); London Offices—Belvedere-rd., S.E.

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The "Civil Service Gazette" remarks:—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operation of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."

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Cacao nibs on the removal of the oil fall into powder, and this powder is Cacaoine. Cacaoine contains neither sugar nor any other admixture whatever. Cacaoine makes one of the lightest, thinnest of warm drinks, and is the most desirable of all for use in the later hours of the day. Cacaoine, by reason of the ingenious method by which the oil is removed, preserves all the fine natural flavour of cacao nibs.
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The "Food Journal" says:—

"A new process to which the nibs are subjected, the principal part of the oil is effectually removed, a thin beverage, well adapted for afternoon or evening use, as a substitute for tea, being the result. The peculiarly smooth and delicate flavour of Cacaoine will, in addition, be a great attraction to all cocoa drinkers."

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